The New-York Times.

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FROM WASHINGTON.

[illegible] Message—The Proposition of Mr. [illegible] the Delegate from Utah—Washington Intelligence, etc.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24, 1857.

Christmas Eve finds the Capital nearly as full of visitors as it was yesterday. The act of recess taken by Congress affords an opportunity for flying trips homeward, which many members have availed themselves of, and quite a long list of absentees. Washington looks and is, decidedly dull now, but the return of members after the holidays, many of them with their families, will endeavor to all again, and set the streams of society flowing in motion, as well as the currents of legislation. As it is the interest of Congress to shorten its sessions now as much as possible, we may anticipate immediate and unusual activity in both Houses from and after the 4th proximo.

The proceedings of the House in directing an inquiry by one of its Committees as to the propriety of expelling from the body the Delegate from Utah, excite a good deal of comment. Certainly it is not to be anticipated that the deliberations of the Committee will result in any such recommendation as that the House should proceed to so extreme and inclement a if certain. If Congress chooses to pass direct legislation for the Territory of Utah, it can do so, but with the Territorial organization [illegible] deprived of it. Brigham Young, [illegible] simply accusing him to be in the House, he may be expelled; but to visit that penalty upon him and upon the entire people whom he represents, upon the supposition that a portion of them, or a majority of them, are in rebellion, would be to establish a most dangerous precedent.

Grant that nine-tenths of the people of Utah are in open rebellion, and the remaining tenth are [illegible] protected here by the representation guaranteed them in the organic act, until they are deprived of it by law. Expel Dr. HEMPSTEAD, of Utah, to-day, and what is to prevent the expulsion of Mr. PARROTT, the delegate from Kansas, to-morrow? Nothing but the caprice of the majority. Some say they would expel Dr. HEMPSTEAD because he is a Mormon; but KITTS, for instance, looks upon an Abolitionist probably with equal abhorrence, and it is doubtful which is the worst in Father GIDDINGS' eyes, a man with fifty wives or one with fifty slaves. If a man is expelled because he is a Mormon, why may not another be expelled for negro-trading or abolitionism? These and similar considerations undoubtedly will restrain the House from any steps against the delegate from Utah, which are calculated to excite reactionary sympathy in behalf of his deluded constituency.

Messrs. STUART & BOUCICAULT announce the opening of their new Theatre in this city New-Year's night, when the season is to be inaugurated by THERESA ROLLA, the *danseuse*, and the well-known ballet troupe from Niblo's. The form of the Theatre, designed by Mr. BOUCICAULT, is a novelty in theatrical architecture. It is the Moorish arch, slightly oblated, or depressed, and supported on segments of large circles instead of straight columns. This design is followed throughout the auditorium, not only in plan, but in elevation, and in all the decorations. The latter are to be in white and gold, relieved with pearl colors and the ceiling over the dome-circle will be a fine white gauze, tinted pale sky-blue, through which free ventilation will take place. There will be a dozen private boxes, a commodious dress-circle, and a large parquette. It is designed to make the seats more comfortable than usual in places of public amusement, and between eight and nine hundred only will be placed in a space in which seven hundred would ordinarily be crowded. The avenues of ingress and egress are to be very ample; and a covered porch, under which visitors may alight from their carriages, is another peculiarity in this new temple of Art.

While upon the subject of public amusements let me fulfill a neglected duty, and announce that the second annual exhibition of the Washington Art Association has been opened for several days. This institution, though quite young, displays a vigor and energy promising valuable results. Its walls this year are adorned by many a gem of art, contributed directly by American artists, or selected from the galleries of public-spirited patrons of American art.

Mr. BRADY, the well-known New-York photographer, has just left us, after a day or two's sojourn in search of a suitable place in which to open a gallery here of photographic art. I understand that he has made satisfactory arrangements, and will return immediately to carry out his proposed enterprise.

JOHN H. BEARD, of California, has been appointed clerk of the Senate Select Committee on the Pacific Railroad. S.

Affairs at Washington—Central American Negotiations—Utah, &c.

From the Philadelphia Press.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, Dec. 24, 1857.

The negotiations between the United States and England in regard to Central American affairs are at a stand-still. Orsino in Parliament, the London Times, and the other British Ministerial Press, and Parliament himself, in verse, express their willingness that the United States should have in the affairs of Central America the superior weight of influence to which she is entitled by her position amongst the nations of the earth, but more especially by their contiguity and power for good or evil over her commercial and national interests.

But the British Government do not set up to their fine expressions of good-will. General Cass says: "Well, Lord, Nature neither the United States nor England desires possessions in Central America, and why not abrogate all that has been done previously, and say so in a few plain words in a new treaty." "Ah" replies the wily diplomat, and then he goes off into the old story about Honduras and the Bay Islands.

The truth is that Great Britain endeavors to secure a foothold in Central America, and I know that the Administration are fully satisfied of this fact, and determined also to prevent it. The treaty with Nicaragua was one step in that direction, and the further proper steps will be taken in due time. I am confident, to wipe out every vestige of English claim there, and inaugurate, upon a sure basis, a healthy and just American policy, the animating principle of which will be that so celebrated under the name of the Monroe doctrine.

Lieutenant-General SCOTT has been ordered here to confer with the Cabinet upon Utah affairs. In opposition somewhat to his opinion as expressed when transmitting Colonel Fauntleroy's dispatches, the Administration are at this time inclined to favor an expedition of volunteers from the Pacific slope against Brigham YOUNG.

This seems to be a pet measure with Californians, and, indeed, with many officers of the army who are acquainted with the country to be traversed. It is said that the day season commences in April, and that the sandy masses of that region will then be unencumbered. That they are, by their mode of life, inured to perils and hardships, and would make the most efficient corps which could be used for the character of service required, and that they could be mustered into army regulations, at a small cost to the Government.

This last question, it is expected, will be brought before Congress, in a special message from the Executive, transmitting a report from the War Department.

General HARNEY's consultation as Governor of Kansas was called for by me, and it is stated in high quarters that the other [illegible] has not yet received it.

Action of the Kansas Legislature on the Lecompton Constitution—The Home and the Mormon War, &c.

Correspondence of the Baltimore Sun.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, Dec. 24, 1857.

The intelligence from Kansas shows that the Legislature, at their late special session, adopted such measures as will insure an expression of opinion upon the Lecompton Constitution. That the Lecompton Constitution, with or without Slavery, will be laid before Congress by the Committee appointed for that purpose by the Convention, and accompanied by a vote against the whole instrument, or a vote against the slavery article, I regard as certain. If Congress chooses to pass direct legislation for the Territory of Utah, it can do so, but with the Territorial organization deprived of it. Brigham Young, [illegible] simply accusing him to be in the House, he may be expelled; but to visit that penalty upon him and upon the entire people whom he represents, upon the supposition that a portion of them, or a majority of them, are in rebellion, would be to establish a most dangerous precedent.

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COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS

[illegible] Stock Exchange at from 6½ [illegible] per cent, till the January settlement. Out of [illegible] the demand is generally distributing, and a [illegible] is entertained that, when a reduction of the [illegible] rate is commenced the downward movement will be rapid.

The principal feature in the foreign stock market is the continued advance in Turkish, which is nearly [illegible] per cent above the rates at which it opened a month ago. Other descriptions are in little request. Russian Five per Cents were negotiated at 102¾, 104½ and 105; ditto Four-and-a-half per Cents, 94½; Mexican, 18¾; Portuguese, 43¾; Spanish New Deferred, 25; Turkish Six per Cents, for the account, 98, 98½, 98¾ and 99, and the Four per Cents guaranteed, for the account, 100 and 99½. In the foreign exchanges this afternoon, Amsterdam and Paris were slightly lower, and Hamburg were about the same as last [illegible]. The actual business transacted was unimportant.

The Cotton market this morning was dull, at former rates.

The report of the Liverpool Cotton market this week shows great heaviness, at a decline of fully ¼d. ℔.

The final quotations at the Hamburg Three per Cents, on the Paris Bourse this evening were 66f. 50c. for money, and 66f. 60c. for the end of the month, showing an advance of more than a quarter per cent. At Amsterdam and Vienna extreme dullness still prevails.

About £310,000 of gold, nearly all Australian, was sold at the Bank to-day. Arrivals are also coming in from Ireland and other places.

The gold by the *Essex*, £431,000, will be delivered to-morrow, and the whole is expected to go to the Bank.

The precise amount of silver shipped by the steamer *Caledonia*, to sail for Hamburg to-morrow morning, is £50,148.

The African mail steamer *Gambia* has brought £12,000.

The figures presented in the monthly return of the Bank of France furnish a remarkable illustration of the effect produced in that country by the advance of the rate of discount to 10 per cent. at the beginning of November, and justify the reductions to the extent of 2 per cent. subsequently made. The bullion, which in the previous account showed a falling off of £1,440,000, has experienced an increase of £1,860,000, and now stands at £9,440,000, although the premium paid for artificial purchases, which last month amounted to £15,000, has not been more than £10,000. Even allowing, therefore, for the effect of the police restrictions to prevent any efflux, which were said at the height of the crisis to have been redoubled, it is evident that a strong turn of the tide must have taken place naturally. While the bullion has been rapidly increasing the note circulation has been drawn in in a greater ratio, a diminution having occurred of £1,950,000. A withdrawal of £3,120,000 of deposits has been coincident with a contraction of £3,080,000 in the discounts. The balance to the credit of the Treasury has increased £55,000, and the advances on stocks and shares have been reduced by about £240,000.

The telegraphic quotations from India to-day, show a further favorable movement of a half per cent. at Calcutta. At Bombay, on the contrary, there had been a rise of 2 or 3 per cent, owing doubtless to the heavy shipments of specie made thence to Calcutta. From China it is stated the quotation at Hong Kong remained at 4s. 11½d., while at Shanghae it had gone from 6s. 8d. @ 6s. 11d. Prices of silk were unaltered. The settlement is 12,000 bales less than last year. On political matters the only statement is "It is expected Canton will be taken some time in November."

In the Produce Markets, during the week, the transactions have been of moderate extent, and towards the close the late partial advance was generally lost. Numerous public sales of Sugar have been held, including a considerable quantity of foreign Muscovado, but most descriptions have given away about 1s., excepting the finest grocery, while low brown Mauritius has, in some cases, been parted with at a decline of 1s. 6d., which corresponds with the extreme depression in November. Several arrivals have taken place from the United States. The present low quotations appear to have a favorable influence upon the deliveries for consumption. Coffee has experienced a reduction of about 1s. for Plantation Ceylon. Two floating cargoes of Rio are reported at several shillings under the last sale effected. Arrivals of Cocoa from the Continent have still the effect of unsettling prices. In Rice there has been no material alteration. The quotations of Spice have suffered a further depression, Cassia Lignea being the only exception. Saltpetre has experienced a fall of about 2s., the prices now current being nearly the same as at the heaviest period of last month. Great dullness continues in the Tea Market, and little business has transpired beyond some parcels pressed for sale. At auction, yesterday, 5,000 packages were realized at easier rates.

Bank of England Returns.

The following is the return of the Bank of England for the week ending Wednesday, Dec. 9, 1857:

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued	£24,043,355	Government debt	£11,015,100
		Other securities	5,485,900
		Gold coin and bullion	7,542,355
		Silver bullion	Nil.
Total	£24,043,355	Total	£24,043,355

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietor's capital	£14,553,000	Government securities (including dead weight annuity)	£3,434,022
Rest	2,443,816	Other securities	20,111,135
Public deposits*	2,016,622	Notes	2,903,405
Other deposits	14,448,728	Gold and silver coin	501,324
Seven-day and other bills	611,223		
Total	£33,946,938	Total	£33,946,876

* Including exchequer, savings banks, commissioners of national debt, and dividend accounts.

Coin and Bullion, increase	£713,623
Notes issued, increase	672,430
Public Deposits, increase	616,196
Other Deposits, decrease	4,439
Government Securities, decrease	7,625
Other Securities, decrease	1,892,301
Notes in reserve, increase	1,632,145
Active circulation, decrease	959,600

Statement of the Bank of France.

The *Moniteur* publishes the following monthly debtor and creditor account of the Bank of France, made up to Dec. 10. The corresponding figures of last month are added:

BANK OF FRANCE.	Dec. 10.	Nov. 26.
Capital of the Bank	[illegible]	[illegible]
Capital, New	[illegible]	[illegible]
Reserve of the Bank	[illegible]	[illegible]
Reserve in hands of the [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bank notes in circulation	[illegible]	[illegible]
Do. do. of the branch banks	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bank notes in circulation	[illegible]	[illegible]
Receipts payable at sight	[illegible]	[illegible]
Treasury current account	[illegible]	[illegible]
Sundry accounts current	[illegible]	[illegible]
Do. with sundry [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dividends payable	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bills and sundry [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Commission on deposits	[illegible]	[illegible]
Re-bills the last 6 months	[illegible]	[illegible]
Protested bills	[illegible]	[illegible]
Gold bars	[illegible]	[illegible]
Total	[illegible]	[illegible]
Cash in hand	[illegible]	[illegible]
Cash in the Bank of [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bills discounted	[illegible]	[illegible]
Commercial bills discounted	[illegible]	[illegible]
Do. do. payable in Paris, but not yet due	[illegible]	[illegible]
Total	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bank stock reserved	[illegible]	[illegible]
Government securities	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bank stock, not settled	[illegible]	[illegible]
Real estate, furniture of the [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Capital [illegible] of the Bank	[illegible]	[illegible]
Expenses of management	[illegible]	[illegible]
Profit to the Bank	[illegible]	[illegible]
Specie, purchases of gold and silver	[illegible]	[illegible]
Sundries	[illegible]	[illegible]
Total	[illegible]	[illegible]

Certified by the Governor of the Bank of France.

DE GERMINY.

* There appears to be an omission here in the telegram.

The Bank of Hamburg.

Hamburg (Dec. 9) Correspondence of the London Times.

I have already informed you of the resolution come to by the Senate and Burgerschaft of this city to form a "Discount Bank," with a capital of 15,000,000 marks banco, instead of 30,000,000 as originally proposed. The plan for discounting bills already issued by the old management of the Bank, and the first portion of the original capital (6,000,000), on the state security, including the securities demanded by the Bank, [illegible] Bergdorf, and 7,889 Hamburg-Berlin Railway shares, with other State securities, has been specified in the hands of the [illegible] in lieu of advances made on the spot. The remaining 10,000,000 marks are to be raised by means of a loan upon the same eligible terms possible, and paid in silver into the Bank; and rumors are about that negotiations are being carried on with the Bank of Prussia for this supply, but whether there be any reliable grounds for the assertion, or not is at present unknown. However, it is certain that yesterday morning the "Hamburg Discount Bank for 1857" commenced its operations, and, as I have been credibly informed, bills to the amount of about 900,000 marks have been discounted, extreme precaution being used in the selection of the paper, and hints thrown out to the merchants that, unless under very pressing circumstances, they should not avail themselves of it, in order to avoid its too rapid absorption. This may account for the smallness of the amount paid out yesterday.

So far so good. In consequence of this arrangement, a better feeling prevailed on 'Change; but on the fact becoming known towards the close of the day that as many as a dozen additional firms had been compelled to stop payment, and that others were likely to follow, the favorable impression was diminished by the fear that the small amount of 15,000,000 would not suffice to do more than afford a temporary relief.

Forty-nine firms that have suspended payment have to appear before the Chamber of Commerce to choose administrators to examine their books, who will have to decide whether such firms are to be considered solvent, and able to pay if time be allowed them to carry on their business under a committee, or to be declared at once insolvent, and consequently to wind up forthwith in the usual manner, the creditors having the benefit of the law of bankruptcy of 1799 in their favor.

The firm of H. Pontoppidan, whose bills upon Mr. Westenholz, of London, have always been taken in preference to those of many other respectable houses, and which has transactions to a very considerable extent in the Danish dominions (Mr. Pontoppidan being Danish Consul-General in this city,) is reported to have refused bills for want of specie yesterday; but it is expected that the firm will receive support from the Danish Government.

The old firm of Harstrick, Koch & Co., and those of Lafrenz & Koch, Caspe & Meyer, G. H. Luther & Co., C. A. Stanlee, F. O. Schubach, H. Ruckner, C. Gossler, and Heine & Fleckenmann, have all stopped, but the amount of their liabilities is said not to be very considerable.

The rate of discount charged by the Discount Bank is 10 per cent., and will probably continue at that figure, but the Treasury bills recently issued as advances upon merchandise, are being done at 9½ and even 9 per cent.

A telegram dated Hamburg, Dec. 9, says:

"The firm of M. Pontoppidan, the Danish Consul, has received assistance from the Danish Government, and is enabled to continue its operations."

The Crisis in Copenhagen.

In Copenhagen the King of Denmark convoked a Ministerial Council on the 7th inst., with a view to deliberating on the best means of meeting the present crisis. The day previously 400,000 rixdollars had been forwarded to Hamburg, in the hopes of propping up the house of Pontoppidan & Co. The excitement in Copenhagen had been very great on hearing of the suspension of the above-mentioned house in Hamburg, which, however, was somewhat tranquilized on its transpiring that the National Bank had taken this step towards relieving it.

The Crisis in Prussia.

A letter from Berlin, in the *Sunday Times*, dated Dec. 8, says:

"There is nothing new of any sort or kind to be reported to-day from this place. As there is no accession of bad news in the money world, the tone of feeling appears to be firmer, but nevertheless the quotations, particularly of shares in recently created banking-houses supposed to be more or less implicated in commercial and manufacturing circles, continue to sink. From the *Dresdener Journal* we learn that the Saxon Government, in pursuance of an authorization extended to it by the Chambers, is about to open a Bank for advances on goods in Leipsic. Such an institution was resorted to in 1848, and it was found efficacious on that occasion."

The Crisis in Russia.

From St. Petersburg we hear nothing as yet of failures caused by the American, English, and German panics; the prices of goods generally bought by English houses have experienced some depreciation; and as regards imports, there is no willingness to purchase at present, from the impression that with so great a demand for money in London and Hamburg the prices of oversea goods will necessarily come down very soon. One of the worst effects that this destruction of commercial credit in different parts of the world was expected to produce in St. Petersburg was, that it would frighten private persons away from investing their capital in commercial enterprises, and thus annihilate the small commencement that Russia had already made in this direction during the past twelve months.

The Crisis in Poland.

The failure of the Dantzic firm of Jost. & Co. has caused a crisis in Poland, especially at Warsaw, and the stoppage of the extensive banking-house of Hermann Meyer, Kurtz & Co., with several others, will probably be followed by many more.

IMPORTANT FROM INDIA.

More Battles—Position of the Besieged in Lucknow—Advance of Sir Colin Campbell—Nana Sahib again in Command of the Mutineers.

Telegraphic advices have been received in England from Bombay to the 17th of November, and from Calcutta to the 10th.

A dispatch from Alexandria, dated Dec. 5, to the Foreign Office, is as follows:

Havelock's column, after the battle of Agra, was pushing on with all haste towards Cawnpore, where, on the 16th, Brigadier Greary, of the 5th Lancers, joined and took command. On the 23d they arrived at Kanoul, where the enemy was drawn up, with cavalry, and five guns captured. The rear-guard, now about the strong, reached Cawnpore on the 25th, and being reinforced to 4,000, crossed the Ganges on the 26th. They reached Alumbagh, which is a fortification on the 27, and there wait till the Commander-in-Chief joins them.

Lucknow, said to be garrisoned by 50,000 insurgents, had not been relieved at the date of the latest advices, but still held out, and our force at Alumbagh, only three miles from Lucknow, though in very communication with Cawnpore, had not received a line from Lucknow for more than a month.

Heavy fighting with slaughter, believed to have occurred.

Sir Colin Campbell, who left Calcutta on the 7th of October, reached Cawnpore on the 3d of November, where he remained till the 9th, waiting, it is said, for reinforcements, which must bring up the force at Alumbagh, which he joins, to close on Lucknow on the 1st of November or sooner. A Royal Engineer, who left the village of Kanoul, between the Dilkusha and Lucknow, on the 4th, reports a detachment of 300 men, consisting of part of the Naval Brigade and a detachment of the 93d Highlanders, with two 8-pounders under Colonel Powell, of her Majesty's 53d foot. Our success was complete, but loss [illegible] killed. [illegible] Sikhs, [illegible] Brigade, [illegible] Tucker, [illegible] Bengal Fusiliers, [illegible] Bengal Artillery, [illegible] Bengal Cavalry, [illegible] Bengal Infantry

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

The New-York Times.

PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING, SATURDAY, DEC. 26, 1857.

THE NEW-YORK TIMES.

THE DAILY TIMES is published every morning,—Sundays excepted, and served to the town at twelve Dollars a year; eight Dollars for six months; twenty cents for Twelve Weeks.

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Subscribers who have their papers left at their residences, will please to notify the Publisher of the fact.

Advertisements may be left at the Office of the New-York Times, from 9 A. M. to 5 P. M.

The Country Edition of THE NEW-YORK TIMES is published every Tuesday and Friday morning, and contains the news of the week, and the choicest matter of the daily issue.

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NEWS OF THE DAY.

The Cunard steamship *Persia*, from Liverpool on the 12th inst., arrived at this port yesterday morning. On the day previous to the *Persia*'s departure, numerous additional failures were reported in Great Britain. The funds, however, had advanced and remained firm. Money was in full demand without pressure, and, in some instances, discounts have been obtained below the Bank rate. The Bank of France returns are very favorable, and show an increase in bullion of over nine millions of dollars within a month. At Hamburg the panic continued unabated. More failures had taken place, and the Senate was in permanent session, discussing proposed measures of relief. Since our last reports, the proceedings in the British Parliament have been interesting. The Bank Indemnity bill only waits the Queen's sanction to become law. In the Lords, on the 11th, in answer to a question propounded by the Earl of SHAFTESBURY, Lord CLARENDON said that the French-African emigration scheme, had, doubtless, a tendency to revive the slave-trade, but that the French Government intended to abandon the system. The Chancellor of the Exchequer had moved to incorporate the operations of the Bank act, and the causes of the recent commercial distress. Mr. DISRAELI had unsuccessfully opposed the motion. On the day the *Persia* sailed, Parliament intended to adjourn to the 4th of February.

Additions have been received in England from Bombay to the 17th, and from Calcutta to the 11th of November. British reinforcements were arriving at different Indian ports at the rate of 2,000 men a week. The news from the Northwest is satisfactory. Sir COLIN CAMPBELL had arrived at Cawnpore with 4,000 troops, and Col. GREATHED had crossed the Ganges with 5,000 more, in consequence of which Lucknow was considered safe. NANA SAHIB was believed to be in command of the rebels at Lucknow. Various successful expeditions against the rebels are reported in other districts. It is understood that the life of the old King of Delhi will be spared.

We have dates from Hong Kong to the 30th of October. Preparations were going on for the assault on Canton. Official accounts from Shanghai say that the Chinese Government has demanded of the Russian Government immediate possession of the Chinese territory which that Power has colonized on the banks of the River Amoor.

A murder recently perpetrated in the vicinity of Chicago is very similar in its principal features to one perpetrated in Brooklyn during the present year, the details of which our readers will doubtless recollect. A man left Blue Island for Chicago with a load of oats, and on his way another man named ALBERT STAUB, a Swiss, obtained leave to ride with him. STAUB, after proceeding a short distance, drew a revolver, and placing it at the back of the other's head, shot him dead, and then dragging the body out of the wagon, and leaving it by the roadside, he took possession of the team, drove to Chicago and sold the oats, and proceeded thence to Milwaukee, where he was finally arrested. In the Brooklyn case the murderer was decided by the Court to be insane, but this does not appear to be the case in the present instance, as the murder was deliberately planned for the purpose of obtaining money.

A division of interest to the railroad traveling public has been rendered in Boston. A man purchased a ticket for a certain point, and on board the train received a check. He got off at a station on the way and staid over one day, when he took another train for his destination. The conductor decided that the check was not good, it having been issued for the previous day, and insisted on the man again paying his fare. This he refused to do, and he was arrested at the suit of the Company on a charge of an attempt to defraud. The parties were heard before a justice, who decided that the Company was wrong, and that the man was right.

A conflagratory fire occurred in Buffalo yesterday morning, by which HENRY HART'S variety store in Main-street was destroyed, and the hat stores of Messrs. STILLMAN and TWEEDY & SMITH, on either side, were damaged. Total loss, about $10,000.

Christmas was one of the quietest as well as warmest days of all the year. The weather was actually fine, though all day the promise of a snow-storm was overhead, and the prophecy of it on everybody's tongue. The clouds were not dispersed until evening.

The Board of Councilmen had no meeting yesterday afternoon, a quorum being lacking. The President and ten members only answered to their names.

The Day and Evening Schools of this City and Brooklyn closed on the evening of the 24th inst., to remain on the first Monday of the new year.

A wholesale attempt was made Thursday evening to flood the City with new counterfeit $5 bills, on the John Hancock Bank, of Springfield, Mass. Several persons were arrested for passing and attempting to pass them. The bills were first discovered in the Twenty-first Ward. The fact was telegraphed to the Police Head-quarters, in Broome-street, and thence notice of their utterance was sent to every Ward in the City. Most of the arrested parties have been held for examination.

The East Indian News.

On the 9th of November Sir COLIN CAMPBELL telegraphed from Oude to Lord CANNING at Calcutta, "All right at Lucknow."

The precise meaning of this auspicious message does not appear, but it may perhaps be inferred from the fact that Sir COLIN, after devoting many weeks to the obscure but all-important task of organizing the transport service and the commissariat of his army, had at last taken the field, and, having effected a junction with the victorious column of Colonel GREATHED, at Cawnpore, was expected to appear before Lucknow about the 10th of November, with an Army of nearly 10,000 Europeans, and a formidable train of artillery, comprising the heavy guns brought up from Calcutta by the Royal Mortars of Captain PEEL, R. N.

Although the rebel forces were swarming about the Capital of Oude in such numbers as to cut off the communications between Outram and HAVELOCK in the Residency, and Grant at Alumbagh, about four miles distant, yet it was known that the reinforced defenders of the Residency were amply able to hold their own, and the laconic telegram of Sir Colin Campbell has been fairly interpreted to imply either his arrival at Alumbagh, and his junction with the force of GRANT and PEEL, or a decisive battle before Lucknow itself, with the complete relief of the city by the overthrow of the besieging enemy. The estimates of the rebel force vary from 40,000 to 70,000 men, and the public mind, both in India and England, seems to be painfully indifferent on this subject, and concentrates its anxiety on the arrival of Sir COLIN CAMPBELL at Alumbagh. With HAVELOCK and OUTRAM to defend Lucknow, Sir COLIN CAMPBELL, GRANT, and GREATHED to relieve it, and WINDHAM in command of the reserve at Cawnpore, the question of a few thousand more or less in the array of the insurgents, is purely a secondary affair. So easily the world acquiesces in the most amazing achievements, when once they have been shown to be possible, and accepts the most startling heroism as a mere matter of course!

From all parts of India, beyond the Kingdom of Oude, the accounts are favorable to the British rule. The effervescence of the popular mind was subsiding. MAUD SINGH, who had suddenly veered into rebellion after the fall of Delhi, and whose defection had so nearly disturbed the whole of Southern Oude, had sent in his submission, and the great chieftains throughout the country stood firm in their loyalty.

The interest of the India question will evidently be transferred ere long from India to England, and engaged by the Parliamentary contest between the Home Government and the Honorable East India Company. For it is very plain that the great Mercantile Oligarchy which founded at the first, and for a century has maintained the power of England in the East, is not to be crushed without a struggle. The "double government" has indeed been denounced by Mr. BRIGHT for instant annihilation, and the authority of the Company has been semi-officially doomed in the columns of the *Times*; but the old Anglo-Indian organization has already begun to show fight upon propositions which cannot be disposed of by a single crack of the government whip.

Gifted but Unlucky.

JOHN VAN BUREN is certainly an ornament to the Democratic party. His abilities are of the most marked and distinguished order, and in the special talent of doing the right thing at the wrong time, and *vice versa*, he has not his equal in the country. He could not conceal his opposition to the reelection of Mayor WOOD; but with felicitous mismanagement he contrived to leave upon the public mind the impression, that he would have come out against him before the election, if he had not deemed it safer to wait until sure of his defeat.

To make up for being too late then, he is quite as much too early now. He made a long speech the other night denouncing DOUGLAS, reading him out of the Democratic party and turning him over to the uncovenanted mercies of the Black Republicans. JOHN did this in order to stand well with the President; but with his usual ill luck, the President is turning his face quite in the opposite direction. All the signs of the day point to the amicable adjustment of the Kansas troubles—not by ejecting DOUGLAS and WALKER from the Democratic party—for whatever Mr. VAN BUREN in the consciousness of his own strength may think, this is a thing much more easily said than done—but by gracefully adopting their programme and making it the Administration platform.

The Washington *Union* has been insisting that this Kansas discussion was premature. On Tuesday last, it advised a delay,—not merely to hear from the returns of the Lecompton election on the 21st,—but because "information has not reached us as to the *action of the Legislature at its special session*, and we do not know *whether another vote upon the Constitution, under the Legislative authority, has been directed or not*." The instructions to Gen. DENVER are still more explicit, and direct *him to secure to the people a full and fair* vote at any election which may be ordered *by the Legislature*. And the *Union* has said still further upon this subject:

"According to present appearances, the Kansas question is about to receive its solution; definite information will soon be at hand, and a statement of facts be presented, that will *relieve it of all real difficulty*. Up to the present time there has been no practical question before Congress for its consideration in this connection; *nor has the knowledge of affairs in that Territory been so full and complete as to justify opinions to be expressed that may not be materially modified by subsequent information*. When the Constitution shall be presented, and the admission of Kansas as a State under it is demanded, the subject will be fully before Congress for its consideration and practical action. Then let its merits be candidly and fairly discussed, as it should be, and the action of Congress be taken upon due deliberation. We anticipate an end to the matter that shall dispose of it forever, and in a manner satisfactory to the whole country, except to those who seek to array one section of the country against the other in strife and discord."

All this points unmistakeably to one result. *The President intends to await the result of both elections, and to act with the side that has the most votes.* If a majority of the people vote *for the Constitution, either on the 21st or the 4th* of January, he will recommend its adoption; if they vote *against* it, he will recommend its rejection, and then Congress will probably pass an enabling act. There will be nothing in such a course flagrantly inconsistent with Mr. BUCHANAN'S commitments; and it will be claimed that it is merely carrying out his opinions concerning Popular Sovereignty. It is evident, however, that it will be a full and complete endorsement of the views of Governor WALKER and Senator DOUGLAS; and in that event how will Mr. JOHN VAN BUREN feel at having turned them both out of the Democratic party? We are afraid that JOHN, with all his gifts, is scarcely qualified to play the part of St. Peter at the "celestial gate."

Africa in the British House of Lords.

In the House of Lords, on the 11th instant, the Earl of SHAFTESBURY called the attention of the peers to the French scheme of colonization from the coast of Africa into the French West Indies.

The questions of the noble *representative* of Exeter Hall were answered by Lord CLARENDON very frankly and fully. The British Foreign Secretary stated that he had received information from the Coast of Africa which convinced him that the projects of the French Government, however humanely and honorably conceived, could not be carried out without seriously disorganizing the incipient civilization, and *seriously reinforcing the barbaric tendencies* of the African races on the western coast. He had, therefore, expressed himself in the strongest terms to this effect in his correspondence with the French Government, and he had every reason to believe that the Emperor NAPOLEON would rapidly retrace the steps which he had taken, and abandon the *prosecution of an enterprise fraught with so* much danger to the interests alike of humanity and of commerce. The Emperor had reaffirmed, and in the most emphatic manner, his entire adherence to the declarations of the Congress of Vienna for the suppression of the African Slave-trade.

The hope which we yesterday expressed in commenting upon Dr. LIVINGSTONE'S account of the African Slave-Trade, that the Governments of England and the United States would urge the true nature and consequences of this "colonization" scheme upon the renewed consideration of the French sovereign, has therefore been fulfilled so far as England is concerned, and we trust that the representations of Lord CLARENDON will be followed up at once by our own authorities, who are at least as much interested as Great Britain can be, in remonstrating against a plan which can only result in converting the work of our cruisers on the African coast into a very labor of the Danaides.

Lord CLARENDON further availed himself of the opportunity afforded by Lord SHAFTESBURY, to recognize in his official character the positive advances made upon barbarism by commerce on the West coast, and to point out the considerable and constantly increasing value of the exports of that region, as already established. The fact that the Brazilian authorities have openly assumed the responsibility of charging the central support of the African Slave-Trade upon this country, should stimulate our Government into taking the strongest ground upon all questions which affect the suppression of that infamous traffic, and the development of a legitimate industry and commerce on a continent too long surrendered to the blind rapacity and the blundering selfishness of the worst classes of mankind.

Canada and its Elections.

Canada is in the turmoil of a general election. The returns, so far, indicate large gains by the Opposition over ministerialists. A general election does not take place throughout the whole Province at the same time; each town and county has its own nomination and election day; and, by this means, a defeated candidate in one constituency has an opportunity to run for another. A week or two will, therefore, elapse before the result is definitively known.

In the elections that have been already held, the Opposition have gained, but whether they have gained sufficiently to command a majority in Parliament, remains to be seen. Even if they have such majority, it is extremely doubtful whether they could hold the Government for a session. They are not a homogeneous party. In their ranks we find men who have forsaken old political connections, not from principle, but from pique or to advance their private ambition. We find also in their ranks the lower Canadian "*Rouges*"—impracticable republicans of the French school—who understand very little of the duties or responsibilities of self-government, and have a general idea that liberty means the abolition of the forms and observances of religion. They are animated by a very Frenchy feeling against the Roman Catholic Church in Lower Canada—an organization to which the Province owes a lasting debt of gratitude. Through the quiet unobtrusive labors of the Canadian Priesthood, the French population of the Province have been made the most exemplary peasants in the world. They lack, it is true, the enterprise of Americans, but that, it is not in their nature to acquire.

They are a sober, honest, and singularly simple-minded people. Their religious pastors, taken from among themselves, seldom mix in political contests, and by their *bonhommie* and geniality, win the respect and friendship not only of their own parishioners, but of the members of other Christian persuasions. The Roman Catholic Church, as it exists now in Lower Canada, is perhaps as pure as it ever was or could be anywhere else in the world; it is not propagandist, nor is it political. It has especially rebuked Irish fanaticism, and hence its opponents, who call themselves "*Rouges*," find little favor among the French population. They may, perhaps, succeed in obtaining a triumph here and there in the cities, where Parisian ideas are more or less imitated—as in Montreal, which has elected DORION one of its members; but in the country districts the "*Rouges*" have no chance whatever.

We also find, in the ranks of the Canadian Opposition, men holding principles the very reverse of those proposed by the "*Rouges*." Such, for instance, is another member elect for Montreal, our *quondam* friend THOMAS D'ARCY MCGEE, who notoriously entered the field as the champion of the Irish Catholic party. Then, again, we find that GEORGE BROWN, the recognized leader of the Opposition, has been elected for Toronto. He is a Protestant of the most ultra school, and owes his victory, in a great measure, to the skillful manner in which he has taken advantage of the religious bias of his own constituents. Mr. BROWN is personally popular, and, as the conductor of the principal newspaper in the province, wields considerable influence. He is a man of marked ability and is destined, sooner or later, to take the helm in Canadian politics. When that time comes he will not be one whit more radical than his opponents of to-day, whose conservatism he now so much condemns. Mr. BROWN and the members of the Opposition in Canada West are doubtless sincere progressionists. Their views are practical, but in their struggles for power they have obtained the alliance of men with whom they have nothing in common. It is a game in which every one fancies his neighbor to be the tool, and all will work harmoniously enough until the time shall have arrived for the division of the spoils. Then the Opposition—having no distinctive principle upon which to unite—must naturally fall in pieces. They of course, just now, make use of stereotyped electioneering arguments. They do not fail to claim popular sympathy in their efforts to "rebuke corruption and abuse in the administration of the Government." But, as outside spectators, we do not find that they have advanced any distinctive political principle as a part of their programme; and hence we infer that, so far as Canada West is concerned, the personal popularity of the candidates is the chief issue to be determined. It may be that, in Lower Canada, a few French cities, with more imagination than brains, entertain a visionary idea that their Siberian wilderness may one day form a Gallic Republic to perpetuate the immortal words of "*Liberté, Fraternité, Egalité.*" But the vast majority of Canadian Frenchmen are more practical in their views. They see that it is their destiny to be ultimately swamped by the tide of Anglo-Saxon dom. Republicanism would only hasten their annihilation, and hence it is that among this portion of the population of Canada are to be found the strongest supporters of British rule.

We have spoken of the elements that make up the present Canadian Opposition;—a word now about the Ministerialists. They also are a coalition. They are an admixture of the old Liberal Party, of which Mr. HINCKS was the distinguished head before he accepted the Governorship of the Windward Islands, and the Conservatives under the leadership of Sir ALLAN MCNAB, who has lately retired from public life. During its existence, this coalition, with a progressive spirit of liberalism, balanced by its conservative element, initiated and carried out many reforms of great benefit to the people of Canada. Those especially to be noted are the sanction of the Reciprocity Treaty, the introduction of the elective principle into the Upper Branch of the Legislature, whose members were then appointees of the Crown, the Secularization of the Clergy Reserves, and the passage of a law to abolish the old French Feudal Tenure system, that has existed in Lower Canada since its colonization. All these measures were trump cards taken out of the hands of the Opposition. They have now scarcely any question left upon which to enlarge in their stump speeches. They have the advantage of being new men, and in many cases men of great personal popularity. They have the further advantage of being able to drag in a religious issue, and of being ultra Protestant in Protestant districts—ultra Catholic in Catholic districts, and of no belief at all when anything is to be gained by such a demonstration. But, as a political party, if they could obtain power to-morrow, they would inaugurate no radical changes, but would fully equal their opponents in the display of that conservatism which is laid to the charge of Ministerialists as a political sin of the deepest dye. To us, therefore, the pending election in the neighboring Province is no matter of special interest. It is simply an incident in current history upon which the reading community will like to be informed, and which we accordingly chronicle.

A Bishop and a King.

The venerable titles of Bishop and King have not enjoyed much reputation of late years on either side of the Atlantic; and it is but just to say that for the discredit into which these once imposing words have very generally fallen, Kings and Bishops have been in no small degree responsible. For a King, by virtue of his name, should be a man of character; and a Bishop, by virtue of his, should be a shepherd of the people; and it is natural enough that mankind should revolt from the spectacle of impotence in robes of purple, and selfishness in sleeves of lawn. But while the form of King or Bishop anywhere survives, the most resolute of republicans must wish to see Kings behaving themselves kingly, and the firmest of independents must take pleasure in the hearty efforts of a Bishop to guide his flock. For a humbug is, of all earthly things, the most deplorable. We can, therefore, honestly commend to the admiration of our readers two excellent instances of fidelity in the royal and episcopal functions just afforded—the one at Lisbon by the young King of Portugal, and the other at London by the successor of Dr. BLOMFIELD. PEDRO V., of Portugal, is a boy of twenty, whose place among the Sovereigns of the earth, however *historically illustrious*, is of no great present significance so far, at least, as the extent of his dominions and the influence of his policy are *concerned*. But he has made himself an honorable name and proved himself worthy a wider sway than he is likely to wield, by his manly and generous conduct, during the pestilence which is now raging in the *capital of his small kingdom*. The creed of his people, both political and religious, offered him an opportunity of doing positive good by presenting himself, at the constant risk of his life, wherever the plague was raging, and exerting himself to console, to calm and to reassure the sufferers. This opportunity, he has improved with an energy and a humanity which would have done honor to any man in any station, and which, in a modern King, are doubly honorable.

The Bishop of London, who has manifested great directness and practical force of character in all his official behavior, since his consecration, has just gone back to etymological first principles by putting himself into immediate relations with a vast portion of his Episcopal "flock" long unvisited by any influences from the crozier and the mitre of the metropolitan see. He is at present going through with a series of sermons delivered in the churches of the most crowded and poverty-stricken parishes of London—sermons addressed to the people in language which the people can understand, and in themes which the bitter experience of their daily life has made familiar to their hearts. A London paper thus describes the scene presented at one of these occasions, in the well-known and miserable district of Bethnal Green:

"St. Matthew's Church, which is situated in the most densely populated and pauperized district of the parish, was selected as the place at which the Bishop had to deliver his address, and long before 8 o'clock, the time appointed for the commencement of the service, the spacious church was *densely crowded by such* an auditory as it is quite safe to say was never before seen in any church in England. The people who assembled were of the poorest possible classes—men with fustian jackets and unshaven faces; women whose faces betokened the sad privations they are called upon to endure, and many in absolute rags; but, lest there should be any mistake as to the services being meant for them, some of the most respectable members of the ordinary congregation stationed themselves at the doors and in the streets, and, as the people approached, half ashamed to enter, they were invited in and shown to seats, all of which throughout the church were set apart for their accommodation. These were speedily filled, and the church being crowded to suffocation, hundreds of persons, having vainly struggled to obtain admission, assembled in the adjacent streets, and occupied themselves in discussing the nature of this new movement for their edification."

The short, practical and earnest discourse of the Bishop is then described, and when the services ended, we are told that

"The congregation, unused to such earnestness, were struck with his lordship's animated, and yet simple style of oratory, and as he passed away from the church followed him by hundreds, but without utterring a word."

Punch ridicules, and justly enough, the pompous vanity of the Bishop of Oxford, who professes to appoint his footing, unting, and establish the empire of England by an appointment to Mount Sinai!" But in days more such bishops as the Bishop of London, applied not to India but to England, would go far to redeem that order in the eyes of successive generations, by making it in reality what it professes in name to be.

Purification of the Navy.

The Naval Courts of Inquiry have at last completed their labors and the results of their "findings" are published, excepting in two or three cases which have yet to be reported. Whatever cause of complaint there may have been in the hurried and secret manner in which the Retiring Board accomplished its work, there can be no such accusations made against the Courts of Inquiry. They gave sufficient time to the examination of the cases laid before them, and the utmost liberality was permitted in summoning witnesses. The decisions of these courts, so far as individuals are concerned, are of very little importance to the country, but the principles upon which they were made are of great moment, as they will have an important influence upon the future character of our Navy. From time immemorial sailors have enjoyed a greater freedom of manners than the members of less boisterous and dangerous professions, and an over-indulgence in grog, or a general looseness of morals, so far as the conjugal relations were concerned, in old times were not considered derogatory to an officer's character. The trials, hardships and exposures of a sea life were regarded as sufficient atonement for the little peccadillos which would not have been forgiven in a landsman. NELSON, the idol of Britannia, was anything but a correct moral man, but hereafter the type of the moral hero, in the service of the United States at least, is to be the brave and moral COLLINGWOOD, and not the heroic and immoral hero of Trafalgar. The race of grog-drinking "rum old Commodores," may be looked upon as extinct. The mess-rooms of our men-of-war will contain none but well educated, sober gentlemen, and midshipmen will hereafter be as decorous in their deportment as deacons. One commander having been dropped from the service on the score of alleged ill-treatment of his wife, the naval officer will hereafter be a pattern of conjugal tenderness. It will be found, we have no doubt, that an officer may be as brave as NELSON without being as profane, and that gallantry and good seamanship are perfectly compatible with sobriety and a decent regard for the amenities of civilized life. As our naval officers, in addition to their other duties, have also to act as the representatives of their country and to sustain the national dignity in foreign parts, we shall not suffer any in reputation by the adoption of a new code of morals in this branch of our military service.

It is very possible that under the rigid examinations of the Naval Courts of Inquiry, some individuals may have been hardly dealt with, but the decisions now made must be considered as final, and any attempt to revive the subject will be a useless waste of time. It will be the wiser course for those who have suffered from the Courts, or from the action of the Retiring Board to quietly slide by their decisions and turn to some new employments.

But what is to be the effect on the service at large of this reformation? Will the old adage of *like master like man*, hold good in this case as well in others, and will the improved morals of the officers work a corresponding change in the morals of the men? We are inclined to think it will. There is nothing in the nature of a sailor to prevent his profiting by example, and it is likely that the action of the Retiring Board will have a much wider influence than it was intended should be exercised. There is no legal restraint placed upon Jack, but there is such a thing as an *esprit du corps*, and the change which must inevitably be effected in the morals of the officers of our ships will be felt in a certain degree by the crews under their charge.

Content in France.

The French conception of popularity seems to resemble the Roman notion of peace, and the Russian idea of order.

We are constantly assured that the Government of NAPOLEON III. is extremely popular in France, and those who repeat this assevertion fortify it by appealing to the "voice of the French people." The Press, it appears, is virtually unanimous in supporting the Imperial *régime*. There can be no doubt of this fact; for the moment that any press ceases to support the said régime, that moment it ceases to be a press. Nothing could be simpler. But simple as is this state of the case, it is hardly *so satisfactory as it is simple*. And foreigners, whose interest in the maintenance of the actual order of things in France does not *blind them to the significant movements of* society, cannot look without concern on the colossal system of deception to which the French Government is now resorting to maintain its prestige in the eyes of mankind. While the Government organs of Paris are echoing and reechoing the financial peans of the Ministry over the stable prosperity of the Empire, it is generally leaking out on every side that the most tremendous enterprises in manufactures and commerce are at this moment sustained under the pressure of the times by Government itself—that the Imperial Treasury is doing in a word for all sorts of industries what it has always done for the Operas and Theatres of Paris, keeping them afloat by indemnities to cover their losses. The Emperor NAPOLEON, that is, has undertaken to carry France through the crisis—to save her from the crash of matter and the wreck of worlds—to tax with one hand and help with the other. This is undoubtedly a very grand conception, and it dwarfs in the comparison the most gigantic schemes of a SYLLA or a CAESAR. But will it be successful? The odds are fearful against the Imperial player, but it must be owned that he is playing his game with a stern audacity rarely matched in history.

France has begun to murmur under his hand and he stifles her murmurs with an unbelieving energy, that knows no discrimination of persons or parties. A stray Legitimist journal in the South lifts up its voice in complaint of the abnormal condition of affairs, and it *is at once struck out of existence*—not silenced only, but suppressed. The most powerful of the liberal organs, *La Presse*, of Paris, utters a *similar note of* warning and its offices are closed *for two months*. Proprietors, editors, publishers, printers, hundreds of men, all of them more or less intelligent, many of them influential, such is its power, are by this three-fingered into bitter hostility to the Government. Many of them with

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Publication Office, New-York, Saturday, Dec. 26, 1857.

The City Post-Office.

From the Philadelphia Press.

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, Dec. 24, 1857.

I learn from the highest authority that the Postmaster-General will, under the authority given him by the acts of 3d March, 1845, and 3d March, 1851, place the streets of Philadelphia, New-York and Boston post routes. This proclamation, it will be at once perceived, aims to abolish the private penny post offices in those cities under the control of private individuals.

This step will be found absolutely essential to the practical efficiency of any general system for delivering letters in large cities. At present there are in New-York three or four private Dispatch Agencies, which undertake the delivery of letters. There is no responsibility attached to them, and there will be a constant liability on the part of carriers, clerks and others to deposit in their boxes letters designed for the Government post.

If we are to have an efficient system for the City it must be exclusive and uniform. There must be but one set of boxes for receiving City letters, and then any failure in prompt delivery can be instantly traced to its proper source.

ONE CITY NOT AFFECTED BY THE PANIC.—It should be a cause of congratulation to certain of our cotemporaries who attribute all our financial troubles to overtrading and too much enterprise, to know that there is one great City which has not been at all affected by the panic. While we receive accounts by every arrival from Europe of fresh failures in London, Liverpool, Hamburg, and other great commercial towns, we hear of none in Madrid, and the reason given for it, too, is a very satisfactory one, and proves the truth of the cause assigned for the failures in other places. Financial affairs were already so bad in Spain owing to the almost entire absence of commercial enterprise among the people, that they could not be rendered any worse by any panics, revulsions, or pressures in the commercial world. It may, perhaps, be considered fortunate to have a place where in twenty years, they can live in a state of undisturbed stagnation and general bankruptcy.

BEWARE OF RABID IMMIGRANTS.—A Canadian gentleman, Mr. ISAAC BUCHANAN, who has just been elected a member of the Provincial Parliament, has created a sensation among his constituents by declaring himself in favor of the form of government existing in the United States, and this avowal of republican sentiments did not in the least diminish his popularity. Mr. BUCHANAN'S partiality for republican institutions may be accounted for from the fact of his being a son of the late JAMES BUCHANAN, for many years British Consul in this City, where the liberal Canadian spent the early part of his life.

COMPLIMENTARY TO FOREIGNERS.—A Boston paper, in describing the person of JOSEPH, the supposed murderer of his wife and two children, in Westfield, says: "He is a short, thick-set man, of good manners, and more than ordinary intelligence *for a foreigner*." *As Saxony is a native of the same country* that gave birth to AGASSIZ, this estimate of the comparative intelligence of foreigners in Boston, is rather remarkable. It shows how modestly some people estimate their own intelligence.

A HINT ON MANNERS.—*Why will the Herald* persist in styling the *Tribune* an "obscure and ignorant journal?" Good manners, to say nothing of justice, ought to prevent such constant outbreaks of virulent jealousy. The *Tribune* is certainly neither "obscure nor ignorant;" and if it were both, it does not become the *Herald* to throw stones at it. It would be greatly for the *Herald's* advantage, in point of reputation, if it were more "obscure" than it is—more "ignorant" if probably could not be.

The Question of the Danubian Principalities

From a Russian Point of View.

This intricate problem continues to perplex the European political quid nunes, and to engender all sorts of contingencies as certain to spring from its complications. The two great Russian journals, the *Nord*, published at Brussels, and the *Deutsche Reform*, take somewhat opposite views; but this may be part of the usual Muscovite process of bewildering the public mind, and profiting by the confusion. The former stands up vigorously for the erection of a Kingdom, or at least a Union; while the other says a foreign Prince must not be thought of. Our London correspondence yields us an epitome of two articles, whose ability and subtlety of logic he calculates, which appeared in the *Nord* of the day before the mail left, and which we subjoin for the consideration of such of our readers as take an interest in this newest riddle of Old World diplomatic ambiguities and contradictions:

"The Austrian journals, says the *Nord*, invariably represent Russia as having a special interest in the union of the Principalities, and their object in this is to throw suspicion on the views of Russia, and at the same time, to conceal the real tendency of the Cabinet of Vienna in the question."

Russia has no interest, direct or indirect, secret or avowed, in the union of the Danubian Provinces under a single Government. The project of union was dictated at the Congress of Paris in a spirit hostile toward Russia. The Principalities, united under a strong government, would, it was said, serve as a bulwark for the protection of the Ottoman Empire. Russia remained perfectly indifferent to this scheme; and, we ask, in what way could she gain by the union? Austria, on the other hand, foresaw that, united under a single Province, prosperous, contented, and independent, the Principalities would be less accessible to external influences, and hence her opposition to their union. But her policy is much more subtle, and her insight extends further. She fears the advent of Roumain nationality, which would be a danger for her Provinces inhabited by the same race, and the example injurious in its influence upon the nationalities of all kinds which compose the Austrian Empire. The Cabinet of Vienna would yet even be satisfied to see the two Principalities separate. It is essential to her interests that the Roumain nationality should disappear, absorbed and lost, situated in the sovereignty of the Porte, it should successively lose its distinct constitution, its privileges and immunities, its name, language, and religion. This is the line which the Cabinet of Vienna has clearly traced. The Oriental policy, which has the exclusive protectorate of Turkey, and Austria applauded the result to which

the strictly constitutional. But this Protocol has been transmitted to the collective Plenipotentiaries of Europe, and it became necessary for Austria to attempt to cancel this impending contingency. She counts upon accomplishing this design by the doctrine of an obligatory unanimity in the decisions of the Congress of Paris.

The plenipotentiaries of Vienna are not governed by the principle of majorities, but by that of collective action. Unanimity being rendered impossible by the opposition of Turkey, supported by Austria, and the principle of deciding by a majority being set aside, who is to be judge in the differences of the Porte with its vassal provinces? The Porte itself. She remains, then, entirely mistress of the means of provoking those differences, by insensibly evading the imperfectly-defined rights of her vassals, and by enlarging the sphere of her suzerainty so as to convert it into a complete sovereignty. The Cabinet of Vienna is there to encourage her in this course, and we are still but at the advent of a system which time will develop. But let the Porte take care. That which constitutes its only strength is the guarantee given by Europe to its integrity, and this guarantee is a bubble as well as a prop.

The second article of *La Nord* commences by stating that the union of the Principalities is the grand international question of the day, and again strongly contends that it ought to be solved in the Congress by the vote of the majority. It next combats some of the views expressed by the Austrian organ, the *Journal de Frankfort*, which had contended that Turkey, in her relations with the Principalities, had reentered upon all her rights as an independent State, and therefore the principle of majorities had ceased to be applicable to her.

No! says *La Nord*. Turkey has not reentered, with regard to the Danubian Provinces which the powers engaged in the Tartar war have replaced under her suzerainty, into all the rights of an independent State—rights that she had not before the war and cannot have resumed after the peace. The Congress of Paris has rendered these provinces to her under limited sovereign rights, and on certain conditions. She is charged to maintain inviolable and entire the ancient immunities of the two provinces. This limited sovereign right over the provinces has been restored as a condition of European equilibrium. The Eastern war and the Treaty of Paris have not had for their object to change the position of Turkey in her relations with the provinces. Before the war they did not constitute a portion of her immediate domain; her rights over them were restrained and limited. It would be strange if the collective protectorate of Europe under which the rights of the provinces are now guaranteed were less efficacious, rendered them less independent, than the simple protectorate of a single State.

Special treaties long ago gave to the Principalities all the real rights of sovereignty—an independent legislation and judicial administration, the right to make peace, war and treaties; and further, the right of electing official representatives of their sovereignty. What did these treaties give to the Porte? Nothing beyond the suzerainty realized by a tribute. Read the three treaties of 1802, 1802 and 1815. Bajazet I., Mohammed II., and Selim, pretend to no other sovereign right than that of tribute. All the disposition of these treaties is to prevent Turkey meddling with the affairs, the rights and powers of the two provinces and to maintain their independence. Nothing is to be found which could seal a bond of subjection; but all the precautions are taken against the Turks, so far even as to interdict them from the rights of domicil and the exercise of their religion.

The *Journal de Frankfort* asks if the new political organization demanded by the Divans does not create a new question; if the organization is compatible with the maintenance, guaranteed by the Western Powers, of the anterior state of things, which conciliated the privileges of the provinces with the suzerainty of the Sultan; and if, when the Conference is about to complete the guarantees, a new question is not created, which is beyond the competency of the Conference to deal with;—consequently, whether the Porte does not, on this new point, reenter upon its rights as an independent State, and, therefore, is not bound to submit its rights to the decision of majorities.

These questions are easy to answer. There is no incompatibility between the new organization demanded by the Divans and the principles of the Treaty of Paris, as there is none between this treaty and the ancient treaties which have reserved their sovereignty.

The absolute right of the Provinces to elect their princes, is it not guaranteed to them by their treaties, (Art. 4 of treaties of 1802 and 1640, and Art. 11, treaty of 1812), and the Porte, is it not interdicted from either interfering in their elections or interposing any obstacle (Art. 11)? Is not the obligation imposed on the Porte to recognize the princes elected by the free will of the provinces? Where is, then, the new question? Is it in the demand for the union? But cannot the two provinces remain still under the suzerainty of the Porte and pay their tribute? Servia, under an hereditary prince—Egypt in the same position—do they not remain under the suzerainty of the Porte? Why should it be otherwise with the Principalities?

The secret of the opposition of Austria to the union is in truth because she desires to see the Principalities feeble, and to prevent the spectacle of their power and prosperity, when united, becoming contrasted with a decay which begins to strike all minds.

Academy of Music.

The annual performance of the "Messiah" took place last evening at the Academy of Music, and attracted a fine audience. We were glad to notice that the upper tiers were completely filled. This may indicate a popular relish for oratorio music, or a curious desire to see a number of famous singers in the "costume of the period"—we will not presume to say which. But this is certain, that whenever Mr. Fenner sings a very low note very much out of tune, he was vociferously applauded; but when the "Hallelujah" chorus was given, and given well, those who approved it were few in number and weak in purpose. We fear that the singers were the attraction, and not the music.

The New-York Harmonic Society needs an infusion of new blood, and these weekly festivals will, we trust, effect it. Numbering upwards of 300 voices, there are necessarily many bad ones in the ranks. These must be weeded out, for they are worse than useless. Some of the best choruses last night were spoiled from this cause. The "Hallelujah," however, was most nicely given, and we were glad to notice that the conductor insisted on the audience standing during the performance. This is done universally at the English Festivals, and we cannot see any possible objection to the custom; but we do, on the contrary, see a good reason for it.

Miss Cazaneu, a singer who has already, we believe, enjoyed a career in the United States, made her effort in the oratorio. The lady is a recent addition to Mr. Ursini's company, and will undoubtedly be heard in the Italian and one modest contralto part which the glorious oratorio contains to enable Signor Iacy, Alto, to take his benefit. Catalani is merely unknown to sing in Handel's Funeral Anthem, Corinna and Italian opera in oratorio, and in contralto parts. Understanding she will be announced to do many more things by her friends in the morning papers, Miss Cazaneu possesses a strong mezzo-soprano voice of a peculiar hard quality. It appears to be under good control, but such a voice is a little too suggestive of the flat, sharp, and struggling with the old and almost tuneless melodies of Handel. It did not, we fancy, shine to best advantage. The lady, however, was warmly applauded, and achieved a success.

Mrs. Fenner distinguished herself on this occasion by singing most superbly. It was to this lady that the audience owed the treat of the evening. Without taking the slightest liberty with the text she infused into her air a truly wonderful amount of pathos. It was a great performance.

Mr. Fenner, however, was not in good condition, and Mr. Fenner looked as if he would rather be anywhere else than where he was. Mr. Fenner, who naturally is a good-natured man, and who, we believe, has been a favorite in the Academy from Mr. Hackett down, seems to feel that he is forced, by his engagement, to sing and vociferate, like too many of his predecessors. To-night Mr. Fenner appears in "Martha."

PARISIAN GOSSIP.

The Cause of the Suppression of La Presse—Its Effect on American Affairs—Completion of the American Chapel, &c.

From Our Own Correspondent.

PARIS, Thursday, Dec. 10, 1857.

I return again to-day for a moment to the subject of the *suppression of the journal La Presse*, because it is still the event of the day, and because some developments in connection with other journals, show that there is a new movement on foot in the Democratic party. The impression produced by the suppression of this important Republican journal is as lively as when the fact first became known. The article of M. Peyrat, which brought upon the journal the displeasure of the Government, was thoroughly discussed before publication in the ranks of the Republican leaders, and it was to have been immediately followed by another quite as strong, and perhaps equally as obnoxious in language as itself. The *Presse*, then, and that part of the Republican or Democratic party, which was under its influence, had an object in view in the publication of these articles. What was that object?

Certain articles in another evening Republican paper, the *Courrier de Paris*, give us a clue, I think, to the whole question. The Republican Party have now acknowledged that Louis Napoleon and his Government are an accepted and fixed fact for France and for Europe. Five of the Republican Deputies, elected last June to the Legislature, were the first to openly acknowledge this fact in taking their seats, and swearing to "support with fidelity the Constitution and the Emperor." So soon as these gentlemen took their seats, a movement was observed in the Republican Party. The question was—How now are we going to shape our course?

The *Presse*, taking the lead, declared that the five members did well in taking their seats, condemned the two members who refused the oath, and proclaimed boldly its intention of agitating the great revolutionary party. For this first essay in the new doctrine, the journal was suppressed for two months.

The moment the *Presse* was hushed the *Courrier de Paris*, a thorough republican paper, took up the cry, but on a different tone. It announced a change of politics, and declared for the future that it belonged to the "Constitutional Opposition." It admits Louis Napoleon and the Empire as the will of the people, just as the people of England admit the Queen and Constitutional Monarchy; but it is going to work for the organization and support of a Constitutional Opposition, such as is found always in England. This is technically the position of the *Courrier*, but you will see that if it were its *real* position, the thing would be simply a Utopia. The fact is, the *Courrier* occupies the same position as the *Presse*; its ends and its objects are the same; only, seeing that the *Presse* failed in the means employed, it adopts other tactics.

But the movements of which these articles are the indication is a serious one. A new position is created by the action of the five Republican Deputies in entering the Chamber. The policy of passive obstinacy is discarded, and a new one of active constitutional opposition inaugurated. Only, that this opposition, from the despotic nature of the Constitution which it combats, is obliged to sail under false colors, to disavow its real intentions. Instead of an ordinary constitutional opposition, which only seeks the overthrow of a Cabinet or a Legislature, it seeks nothing less than revolution and a radical change in the form of Government.

The *Courrier* last evening contained a long leading article, carefully written, so as to avoid the fate of *La Presse*, in which its programme is developed at length. Like the mob in Belgium last Summer who cried "*Vive le Roi!*" each time they dashed a stone through a window, the *Courrier* commences its article with a sonorous eulogy of Louis Napoleon, and with an acceptance of him and his Government as the will of the people. The "blind" is artfully erected, but it will deceive nobody. It is not yet time to appreciate the effect of this article on the public mind, but it is undoubtedly destined to a reputation equal to that of the condemned article of the *Presse*.

M. Millaud, the millionaire owner of the *Presse*, who bought his way into the ranks of the journalists in order to gain a respectability in society which his millions alone would never have gained him, is not liked by the journalists, and is just now the butt of the whole army of Bohemians of the press. The last pun I have heard is the following. A gentleman accosting a friend, exclaimed:

"Ah! have you heard the news? Millaud is going to found a new journal."

"Bah! and what is he going to call it?"

"The *Ex-Presse!*"

Charivari has fallen into a good vein this week on American manners. He visits the White House at Washington on business with the President, and he gives his experience on the occasion. He found the worthy gentleman who administers the Executive affairs of the American people reposing in his chamber, with his heels on the centre-table, puffing a cigar. On his head he wore a cocked hat, with a rakish, parti-colored cockade; he had on big red pantaloons, a striped coat, and his belt was crowded full of revolvers and long knives. In other words, he found the President in the outfit of a fillibuster of the modern school, with manners to match. As *Charivari* bowed, he was accosted with the demand, "Do you want to enlist?" "Enlist for what?" said *Charivari*. "For Nicaragua, or Cuba, or Mexico—anywhere." "No!" said *Charivari*, and then the great fillibuster, ringing a bell, had the unfortunate Frenchman put out of the house, without even having once spoken of the business which took him there. *Charivari* confesses to a change of sentiments on the subject of the illustrious Mr. Buchanan.

This week the New-York Times contains a whole page of murders and attempts at murder, and *charivari*, professing to grow alarmed at this state of things, declares it his duty to tell his French fellow-citizens who may have emigration views, what an America is, in his native country. When the American rises in the morning his first movement is to fill his belt with revolvers, and start out into the street. There he walks until he encounters some one, when he commences firing, and after despatching four or five fellow-citizens he returns home with an appetite for his breakfast. This is his Stoughton bitters, his *absinthe*, necessary for a proper appreciation of his morning meal. After breakfast he goes to his business, and manages, during the course of the day, to kill four or five more, just to keep his hand in. He comes home to dinner, and, after dinner, in order to pass the evening agreeably and digest well his plum-pudding, he goes to the theater, and if the play is bad, and there is no excitement, he pulls out his pistols and commences firing into the boxes, on to the stage, into the orchestra. He starts home, stops on the way to eat some oysters, the garçon contradicts him, he shoots him and leaves in an uneasy state of mind for fear he can't sleep. To make sure of this latter point, he enters a private house, shoots the master and mistress, the children, the servants, the dogs, the cats, the canary birds, and then goes home with the feeling of a man who has earned his night's rest.

Don't be surprised, after that, if you have a disinclination of French extradition!

But we are not alone this week at the mercy of the French satirist. Mr. Barnum and his *Lovely Nightingale* is for a time, by the case it is Grisi's pencil that does the work. In a succession of pictures he represents the triumph of Archimedes over the English engineer. Mr. Barnum forces the fact of the great superiority of the screw, acknowledging his prowess and imploring his aid. The decayed-looking pod begins to lend his aid and his screw.

Some time ago I announced to you the construction of an American chapel here, and stated that on account of the crisis there was a difficulty in making the last payment. The church is now finished, is ready to be delivered, but the architect refuses to deliver it until the terms of payment are complied with, and even threatens, I have been told, to sell the house. Great efforts are being made to meet this demand, but the limited number of Americans in Paris render success extremely doubtful. I make this statement partly as news, and partly to awake the attention of the friends of this church to the subject. Rev. Mr. Kirk has returned to the United States. He was succeeded as pastor here in the temporary place of meeting by Rev. Mr. Hall. Mr. Hall in turn has left, to take charge of the American chapel at Rome, and is to be succeeded here definitively by Rev. Mr. Wall, or Woller.

The daughters of Mrs. Cunningham are said to be in this city, under fictitious names, as well as Mr. Allibone and family. The former came over in one of the Havre steamers, a month ago, in company with a gentleman of their acquaintance.

An American gentleman, well known here, Mr. W. F. Rogers, of Philadelphia, died suddenly last evening, at No. 6 Rue Tronchet.

MALAKOFF.

A Merry, Quiet Christmas.

Christmas this year, spite of the ravens that croak of hard times, passed off very much like the Christmas of more prosperous seasons. "On the night before Christmas" stockings were hung at the chimney-corners as of yore; Santa Claus squeezed through many a stove-pipe to visit many a hearthstone, and filled many a house yesterday with blasts of penny trumpets and tin horns, juvenile drums and other toys, to the great delight of those of tender years, and to the trial of patience of those more matured. In the morning there was service in the Catholic and Episcopal Churches. Each was decorated with evergreens, trimmed for the occasion. The annual festivals of many of the Mission Sabbath Schools were held yesterday. At the Industrial Schools the day was duly observed.

The Children of the Five Points House of Industry met in the Chapel of the Institution, at the Five Points, 1½ P. M., and engaged in religious exercises, Mr. Pease presiding. Thence they proceeded to the Church of the Ascension, where a dinner was provided for them. After this was dispatched they returned to the Chapel at the Points, and listened to brief and pertinent speeches from Rev. Theodore L. Cuyler and others. The presents, which were munificently provided, were then distributed, according to annual custom. The friends of the House of Industry attended numerously.

So did those of the Ladies' Five Points Mission, on the site of the Old Brewery, opposite. The children here assembled in the Chapel, at 2½ o'clock in the afternoon, where exercises of a similar kind, including the turkey of course, were on the programme. It is doubtful whether the poor did not derive greater benefits, and received more *largess* yesterday, that they do in times which are less "adamantine." The *Intelligencer* of New-York were out in full force; in the upper part of the City one could not walk a block without inspecting the palms of at least half a dozen little beggars. The weather was very cold, and the wind chilling. What with the freezing air and the thought of cold and famishing families without an ember to warm themselves by, brought home to one at every step by the fresh importunities of the shivering, ill-clad vagrants, many a hard heart melted in charity yesterday that never was philanthropic before. We observed several poor Chinamen eligibly posted in Broadway, near the doors of some of the fashionable churches, who seemed to reap rich harvests. Their bowed and shivering forms, clad in the Summer costumes of their own country, bespoke them safe objects for discriminating charity. They generally had cigars or other articles for sale, and did not solicit gifts but purchasers.

Several Charity Fairs were open yesterday, and as most of the stores were closed, except in the early morning, they generally did a good business. The ladies of Dr. Dowling's Church, corner of Bedford and Downing streets, who opened a fair in the Church on Wednesday, kept it open yesterday during the day and evening.

The Fair of the Mariners' Industrial Society was also open yesterday at the Mariners' Church, corner of Catharine and Madison streets, driving a good business for an excellent object.

The Ladies' Fair connected with the First Free-Will Baptist Church and Congregation, held in the Bleecker Building, corner of Bleecker and Morton streets, was open till 10 o'clock last evening. The anniversary of the Orphan's Home of the Protestant Episcopal Church was celebrated at Calvary Church last evening. Rev. W. F. Morgan, D.D., Rector of St. Thomas' Church preached the sermon, and the Orphans, who were present, sang hymns. A collection was taken up for the benefit of the charity.

The Christmas celebration of the Sabbath School attached to the Allen-street Methodist Church, took place at the Church last night. The exercises consisted of addresses, dialogues, singing, &c.

The Laight-street Baptist Sunday School's annual exhibition at the Church in Laight-street was well attended.

The children at the Home for the Friendless, assembled in the Home Chapel in East Twenty-ninth-street, and had a merry reception and donation visit. It was enjoyment to see them enjoy themselves.

Sea and Ship News.

ACCIDENT TO THE STEAMER C. VANDERBILT.

The Stonington steamer *C. Vanderbilt* was badly damaged yesterday morning on her arrival here from Stonington. She was just rounding from the East into the North River, and when opposite Whitehall one of the boats of the Atlantic Ferry came suddenly out of her slip under a full headway. To avoid a collision the *Vanderbilt* was obliged to shut off steam to permit the ferry-boat to go ahead of her. The tide was running very strong ebb, which caught the steamer on her starboard bow, swinging her round and causing her to strike the head of a schooner lying at anchor in the stream. The forward part of her wheelhouse on the port side was completely demolished, her guard broken in to the hull, guard braces carried away, and the stateroom deck also considerably damaged. The schooner's head was also damaged, her jibboom broken off, &c. The *Vanderbilt* was towed round to the East River for repairs. In consequence of this accident there was no boat for Stonington yesterday. To-day the *Commodore* will make the regular trip, and the *Plymouth Rock* will take the place of the *Vanderbilt* on Monday, after which she will probably be ready to resume her place on the line. The accident was unavoidable; but teaches the importance of more caution on the part of the ferry-boats in leaving their slips.

☞ The Steamship *North Star* leaves to-day for Bremen *via* Southampton; the next regular mail steamer for Liverpool is the *Canada*, from Boston on the 30th. The *Baltic* leaves this port Jan. 16.

An Antique Policeman Holding Over.—Thomas Doyle, one of the old Police of the Fourth Ward, still insists upon performing the functions of Dock Master at the Corporation Pier foot of Roosevelt-street. Under the old law the Captains of Police were Dock Masters of the Corporation Slips in their respective Wards, and they detailed policeman to act at each slip. The Harbor Commissioners petitioned the Legislature for the repeal of this law, on the ground that these officials and the Harbor Masters were continually coming in conflict. In 1857 the law was repealed, and the whole jurisdiction given to the Harbor Masters. Notwithstanding this change in the law, Doyle, it is said, exhibits a letter from Mayor Wood, the substance of which is, that by a decision of Judge Daly, he is still a Policeman, and may exercise all the functions of his office as formerly. Doyle is now the only member of the old Police who remains to act. The Chief of Police published an order in September, in which he said, "By the 15th section of the Act of the Legislature of the State, passed on the 16th of April, 1857, the authority of Police Officers known as Dock Masters was taken away, and the authority is vested in the Dock and Pier Masters, within the limits of the City of New-York, and in the Harbor Masters of the Bay of New-York, to whom alone that duty is assigned by law. Officers of the Police are not authorized to perform any service in place these functions hereafter.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE

By Telegraph to the New-York Times.

SPECIAL DISPATCHES TO THE NEW-YORK DAILY AND TRI-WEEKLY TIMES.

Christmas in Philadelphia.

PHILADELPHIA, Friday, Dec. 25.

The weather is cold, with indications of snow.

There was much rowdyism in the streets last night. Several shooting affrays took place, two of which proved fatal, one of them at Manayunk, and the other between colored parties, at the corner of Seventh and South streets. It is reported that a woman cut her husband's throat.

The streets have been much crowded during the day.

A large number of persons called on Senator Douglas to-day, at the Girard House.

Destructive Fire in Buffalo.

BUFFALO, Friday, Dec. 25.

The variety store of Henry Harp, No. 171 Main-street, was destroyed by fire at about 4 o'clock this morning, together with a stock valued at $20,000. Insured in Eastern Companies for $10,000. The building was owned by Wm. A. Sutton, valued at $10,000, and insured in the Buffalo Mutual Office for $2,000.

The stock of H. Spellman, dealer in hats, caps and furs, the next door south, was damaged by water to the amount of $6,000. Insured in Massachusetts Companies for $4,000.

The stock of Tweedy & Smith, hat, cap and fur dealers, the next door north of Mr. Harp's, was also damaged by water to the amount of $2,000. Loss covered by insurance.

The Juvenile Missionary Society.—The sixth anniversary of the Juvenile Missionary Society connected with the North Presbyterian Church, was celebrated at Rev. Dr. Hatfield's church, corner of Ninth-avenue and Thirty-first-street yesterday morning. The church was filled with the children,—of whom there are at present about seven hundred connected with the church,—and their friends. After a voluntary on the organ performed by Mr. C. Lasar, the President, Mr. Eugene Thompson, delivered the introductory address, in which he dwelt upon the good work which the Society was accomplishing, its success, and the manner in which it was effected. A hymn was sung by the children, and Rev. Dr. Hatfield offered prayer. Mr. Alvah Phelps then read the Treasurer's report.

Mr. Oliver H. Lee distributed certificates of Life Membership in the Home Missionary Society and the Sunday School Union to those of the scholars who were adjudged to have merited them. Miss Holmes, Miss Brown, Miss Cowles, Miss Seely, Miss Thompson, and two others were thus honored. The Society has conferred about fifty of these certificates since its organization six years ago.

After another hymn, sung by the children exceedingly well, Rev. Theodore L. Cuyler was introduced, and delivered a brief address, in which he recounted, to the great edification of his youthful auditory, his experiences while traveling in Europe. The Society had accomplished a great deal for so young an association. He had three other meetings to address the same morning, hence the brevity of his remarks. A collection was taken up, another hymn was sung, and Rev. Dr. Hatfield with a few remarks and a benediction dismissed the audience.

Appointments by the President.—John A. Parker, Jr., Register of the Land Office at Omaha City, Nebraska Territory.

Charles W. Foster, Register of the Land Office at Plattsburg, Missouri.

John S. Houston, Receiver of the Land Office at Plattsburg, Missouri.—*Union.*

NEW-YORK WEEKLY TIMES.

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BUSINESS NOTICES.

CLOTHING.
JAMES WILDE, Jr., & CO., No. 57 Park-place, and No. 26 Murray-st., will continue to sell for a few weeks longer their large and well-made WHOLESALE STOCK OF CLOTHING AT RETAIL FOR CASH, at much less than wholesale prices.

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MARRIED.

Remsen—Cooney.—At Manhattanville, on Thursday, Dec. 24, in St. Mary's Church, by Rev. T. M. Foran, Peter J. Remsen to Helena A. Cooney, both of Troy, N.Y.

Burton—Warren.—In this City, on Wednesday, Dec. 23, at Emanuel Church, by Rev. Alexander Lodwick, Rev. J. C. Burton to Ellen Louisa B. N. Arnold, both of this City.

Wakeman—Baker.—In this City, on Wednesday, Dec. 23, by Rev. Wm. Barnard, in Madison-av. Presbyterian Church, Mr. Stephen F. Wakeman to Miss Hannah Ann Baker, all of this City.

Bilbee—Jackson.—On Wednesday evening, Dec. 23, by Rev. A. M. Osborn, D.D., William B. Bilbee to Miss Jennie A. Moore, daughter of Solomon Moore, Esq.

Clarke—Clarkson.—In Columbia, S. C., on Thursday evening, Dec. 17, at Trinity Church, Benjamin C. Clarke, Esq., of Glenwood, Fla., to Miss Caroline E. Clarkson, eldest daughter of Thomas F. Clarkson, of Columbia, S. C.

DIED.

Van Kleeck.—In this City, on Friday, Dec. 25, Alida Van Rensselaer, relict of Lawrence L. Van Kleeck, formerly of Albany, aged 78 years.
The relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend the funeral, from the residence of her son, Henry Van Rensselaer, No. 11 Cedar-st., on Sunday, Dec. 27, at 2 o'clock P.M., without further invitation.

Phillips.—In this City, on Thursday, Dec. 24, of consumption, Harriet Gardner, wife of Geo. Phillips.
The friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, on Friday, at 12 o'clock M., from her late residence, No. 132 Prince-st.

Hall.—In this City, on Friday, Dec. 25, of consumption, Sarah Maria, eldest daughter of Mary J. and Amelia B. Hall, aged 21 years.
The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, on Sunday, at 2 o'clock P.M., from the residence of her father, Mr. Hall, No. 1 Bleecker-st.

Friends and acquaintance of the family are respectfully

1,000 PACKAGES OF MESS AND EXTRA NO. 1 MACKEREL.
1,000 quintals George's Bank and other Codfish.
2,000 boxes Digby, Scaled, and No. 1 Herring.
Extra fine dairies of Butter and Cheese.
New Corn-fed Pork, Hams, Shoulders and Lard.
Cheap for Cash down! Cheap for Cash down! Cheap for Cash down!
at EARL, BARTHOLOMEW & CO., 194 Greenwich-st.

AN ANTIDOTE TO ALL INFECTION AND CONTAGION.—It is a fact, and should be universally known as such, that in *Radway's Ready Relief* we have a remedy unexcelled and *unfailing* antidote to all kinds of contagion and infection. Fortified with a few drops of the Relief taken internally, or merely having inhaled its strong and cordial aroma into the lungs, an attendant may, with absolute safety, wait on cases of the most malignant fevers—yellow, scarlet or typhoid—and feel no other inconvenience than that which naturally arises from the close atmosphere of a sick room. So, too, in cases of measles; this dreadful scourge of youth will no longer have "the run of the family;" if one child takes it, let the others have a dose, however slight, of Radway's *Ready Relief*; and the disease, counteracted and neutralized in the blood and lungs, will have no power to spread.
Experiments have been made in this new development of chemistry, which prove that the matter of small-pox, when coming in contact with the Relief, is at once decomposed, and that the poisonous effluvia of the diseased patient is instantly neutralized by the evaporation of the Relief. It is these disinfectant properties that give RADWAY'S READY RELIEF, when taken *internally* and applied *externally*, the wonderful power of protecting even an infected patient from any further advance of the poison.
The theory of this thing—as of all other really useful discoveries—is clear and simple as the mode in which Columbus solved the riddle of the egg. All particles in nature have chemical affinities; *opposites* with which they will *combine* whenever thrown together, thus forming a new and MARVELLOUSLY ALTERED COMPOUND. Now the *Ready Relief* has this NEUTRALIZING AFFINITY WITH DISEASE! If it meets poisonous matter in the system, it will combine with and conquer it—to which we owe the miraculous and incontestible cures which have been made in all quarters of the world by the Messrs. Radway: And should it strike against contagion *in the air or on the skin*, the result will be PERFECT NEUTRAL.
A perfect neutralization of the poisonous effluvia of contagion or malaria, whether it be that of small-pox, measles, scarlet or typhus fever on the one hand, or yellow fever, ague and fever, or bilious fever, on the other.
RADWAY & CO.,
Office No. 183 Fulton-st., up stairs, New-York.

HOLIDAY PRESENTS.
The ne plus ultra for writers.
Pen, pen-holder and inkstand combined.
PRINCE'S PROTEAN FOUNTAIN PEN.
Those wishing a serviceable and useful present for their friends—ladies or gentlemen—will do well to call and examine our stock.
This pen is known and approved to almost every portion of the civilized world, and over 2,000 testimonials have been given in its favor.
Hard rubber pencils, finger rings, napkin rings—gold mounted and plain—tooth picks, &c., &c. Depôt No. 292 Broadway. J. G. STEARNS, Agent.
Pens sent by mail on receipt of $3 50, $4, or $6.

SILVER WARE
AT REDUCED PRICES.
No. 447 Broome-st., one door west of Broadway,
WM. GALE & SON
have on hand a large stock of
SILVER WARE,
Comprising articles for FAMILY USE and PRESENTS, ALL OF THEIR OWN MAKE.
Owing to the state of trade, and a desire to keep all our workmen employed,
WE ARE OFFERING UNUSUAL INDUCEMENTS TO THOSE WISHING TO PURCHASE.

RICH AND COSTLY FANCY GOODS.
FRANCIS TOMES & SONS,
No. 6 Maiden-lane,
Offer to the public
UNTIL THE 1ST OF JANUARY,
AT RETAIL,
Their large wholesale stock of fancy goods of the present season's importation,
AT
GREATLY REDUCED PRICES
FOR CASH.

WATCHES AND JEWELRY,
AT REDUCED PRICES.
The subscriber is selling all descriptions of
GOLD AND SILVER WATCHES,
DIAMOND RINGS,
And all kinds of Jewelry at retail at reduced prices, being much less than usual prices.
GEO. C. ALLEN, Importer of Watches and Jewelry,
Wholesale and retail, No. 11 Wall-st., 2d floor.

HOLIDAYS. 33 AND 35. HOLIDAYS.
CLOTHING,
Corner of John and Nassau.
Clothing of all kinds 10 per cent. less than cost. Overcoats, Raglans, &c.

RICHARDS KINGSLAND, Auctioneer.
THIS DAY,
At 10½ o'clock A. M.,
Importer's and Manufacturer's Sale
OF
SUPERB RICH
FANCY GOODS,
WATCHES, DIAMONDS, JEWELRY,
Fine Ormolu and Gold Bijouterie, Ladies' Cabas,
SILVER AND PLATED WARE,
China and Glass Ware, Furniture, and Fancy Articles of every description, suitable for
HOLIDAY PRESENTS.
The largest and most superb assortment ever offered for sale at auction.
RICHARDS KINGSLAND & CO.,
Salesroom No. 394 Broadway,
Corner of Franklin-st.

THE PERFECTION OF BOOK-MAKING.
WORLD-NOTED WOMEN;
OR, TYPES OF WOMANLY ATTRIBUTES OF ALL AGES AND LANDS.
BY MARY COWDEN CLARKE,
Author of "A Concordance to Shakespeare," "Girlhood of Shakespeare's Heroines," "The Iron Crown," &c.
Illustrated with seventeen Steel Plate Illustrations, designed by Charles Steal. 1 vol. large 8vo. Plain type, bound in morocco, in various rich colors, and in the highest style of the art.
List of Illustrations—Sappho—Lucretia—Arsinoe—Lucretia—Cleopatra—Queen Elizabeth—Valentinian—Joan of Arc—Marquess of Anjou—Isabella of Castile—Lady Jane Grey—Pauline—La Vallière—Maria Theresa—Catharine II—Florence Nightingale.
D. APPLETON & CO., Publishers,
Nos. 346 and 348 Broadway.

FURS!—FURS!!—FURS!!!
CONTINUATION OF THE
ADMINISTRATOR'S SALE OF
J. M. HARLEY'S
ENTIRE STOCK OF FANCY FURS,
AT REDUCED
BELOW COST,
Comprising a full assortment of
MANTILLAS, VICTORINES, CARDINALS, PELERINES, CAPES, MUFFS, CUFFS, and CHILDREN'S FURS.
Also, a full assortment of
GENTLEMEN'S FUR CAPS, COLLARS and GLOVES, and a choice selection of SLEIGH ROBES.
ALL GOODS SOLD, WARRANTED.
All the above were manufactured by J. M. HARLEY, expressly for City Trade. At No. 36 John-st.

NECK-TIES AND GLOVES.
OUR RETAIL SALES
will continue until Jan. 1, 1858.
As our sales in ordinary times are confined exclusively to jobbing houses, we are now enabled to retail our goods at, or even less than, not half the usual retail prices, as the following rates will show:
BLACK SILK, ENGLISH MOIRE AND FANCY TIES, 25c.
ALL SILK MOIRE ANTIQUE, once around, at 25 cents each.
Rich Byron ties with fancy ends, (our best goods,) 50c.
ALBERT TIES, twice around, from 25 to 50 cents.
SELF-ADJUSTING STOCKS and NAPOLEON TIES, from 25 to 75 cents.
SCARFS, in various styles, from 25 cents to $1 75.
Also, an invoice of
HEAVY WINTER GLOVES, superior goods, at low rates.
SMITH & BROUWER,
Importers and Manufacturers,
No. 45 Vesey-st., up stairs.

ONE BOX OF DR. SMITH'S MAGNETIC SALVE,
VALUED AT $1,000.
MRS. R. J. PHILLIPS, 132 ERIE-ST., JERSEY CITY, CURED IN 48 HOURS.
For sale at Dr. S. T. SMITH'S, No. 11 Grand-st., near Church, and at various druggists in New-York and Brooklyn; also, at MILLER'S Music Store, Broadway, near Pearl-st.

HOLIDAYS. 33 AND 35. HOLIDAYS.
CLOTHING,
Corner of John and Nassau.
Clothing of all kinds 10 per cent. less than cost. Overcoats, Raglans, &c.

FEEDLAMP'S
IMPROVED BILLIARD TABLES.
Patented Feb. 25, 1857. Manufactory, No. 97 Amity-st., near Broadway. Warehouse, No. 80 Amity-st., New-York.

THE WORLD CONFIRMS THE FOLLOWING.
SUDDEN DEATH FROM DISEASE OF THE HEART.
To the Editor of the New-York Tribune:
Sir: What fearful results are evidently in the future, if the attention of the public is not more fully directed to the prevention of life from what is usually termed "Disease of the Heart!"
Hundreds of cases could be cited, in which the victim was in the full vigor of manhood, with every apparent guarantee of health and strength, and, as it is generally supposed, free from any organic disease, while apparently in the prime of life, suddenly succumbed to the fatal effects of what is called "Disease of the Heart." But, I am confident, that in a great majority of instances, such is not the case. Sudden deaths from these causes are comparatively rare; and are almost invariably the result of a certain course of symptoms (which I will specify hereafter) which, if properly treated, would in most cases, prevent the fatal result. Yet, from the neglect of these symptoms, and from the ignorance of the medical profession, and a consequent evolution of a diseased condition of the blood, caused by a greater or lesser amount of feebleness in the action of the heart, the vital energies of the undigested or partially digested food, in the course of these cases death results from the inability of the heart to force the blood through the lungs, and a consequent evolution of gas in the digestive organs. They become distended, and being chronically weak, it manifests itself in palpitations, labors for a time, perhaps, convulsively, and finally, from exhaustion, and finally terminates in a sudden death. Of course, life is terminated instantaneously, and the causes of these sudden deaths are thus obscured. There are great numbers of persons in this City, who are thus, and they may, if properly treated, be saved from premature death. The indigestion, which is the cause of these symptoms, is not one of the ordinary forms of dyspepsia, or indigestion, and requires a peculiar treatment and remedies. The indigestion, which is peculiar, and requires a

Col. Fayne was graduated at Williams College, and [illegible] his profession in Albany. He commenced his career as a Whig in the [illegible] Assembly, and was subsequently appointed Secretary of State by Governor Seward, in the place of Jesse Hoyt, who resigned to become Collector of the Port of New-York. He was at the period of his appointment a member of Congress, and was succeeded in the Secretaryship by Hon. Hamilton Fish, who was also a member of Congress. Mr. Fish was a pupil of Col. Fayne's, and was, at the time of his appointment, a young man of great promise, and of the purest character. Col. Fayne, however, all opportunity of immediately active duty being over, preferred to return to the law, and pursuance of his profession in Schenectady, where he remained until 1843, when his son became Clerk of the Supreme Court, and followed his father-in-law, Gov. Wayne, to Albany. He was afterwards appointed one of the Regents of the University, was, in 1844, Elector of President and Vice-President, and subsequently Mayor of the city of Albany. In 1849, he removed to Gilboa, in Schoharie County, where his parents had formerly resided. In the Summer of 1856, his health declining, he became anxious to return home, where lower good air, the care of kind friends and his very associations, would be the direct reliance of his recovery. At that time, of course, all his early friends, the remnant left of the infirmed of the city, and it is gratifying to those who loved him to remember how happy his last days were made by the attentions and sympathies of his friends in the decline of our season, words drawn but poorly to speak the worth of this beloved friend of our youth and manhood. Yet the man who so possessed the confidence of his fellow-citizens, who was the delight of his friends, and the idol of his family, who was the pride of his profession, and the ornament of his age, who was the pride of his profession, and the ornament of his age, who was the pride of his profession, and the ornament of his age

SITUATIONS WANTED.

WANTED—SITUATION, BY A PROTESTANT young woman, as chambermaid and waitress; is a good seamstress and waitress; is a accomplished in all kinds of washing, laces, embroideries, dresses, lace, linen, and silks; is an experienced presser, can do hair, and wind and arrange well; strong, and willing to work; highly recommended. Can be seen at No. 208 7th av., near 24th-st., will go a short distance in the country.

WANTED—A SITUATION BY TWO RESPECTABLE Irish young women; the one is a first-rate cook and an excellent washer and ironer; the other to do housework in a small private family, or as chambermaid and to assist with the washing and ironing. The best of City reference can be given from their last place. Can be seen for two days at No. 320 East 12th-st., between 1st and 2d ave., 2d floor, back room, No. 2.

WANTED—SITUATIONS BY TWO RESPECTABLE and competent young women: in City or country, one to do housework and as cook, washer and ironer, making first-rate bread and pies; the other as excellent nurse, chambermaid and waitress—can do fine washing and ironing nicely; they are willing and obliging. Apply at No. 207 Bowery, for two days. Wages $4 and $5.

WANTED—A HOUSEKEEPER'S SITUATION, FOR a private family, City or country, where a quiet comfortable home might be found; will be found a valuable competent person in a family that may need such help; is very fond of children; references from her employers, where she has lived for years. Inquire at No. 107 Madison-av.

WANTED—A SMART AND INTELLIGENT GERman Protestant girl desires a situation; is a good plain cook and baker, and an excellent washer and ironer; is obliging and kind to children, and willing to do useful; has the best of City references; would have no objection to the country. Call at No. 278 Bowery.

WANTED—A SITUATION AS SEAMSTRESS; IS competent to cut and fit ladies' and children's dresses, and all kinds of family sewing, and is a good seamstress; is willing to assist with children; has the best of City references from her last place. Address, for two days, SEAMSTRESS, Times Office.

WANTED—A SITUATION, BY A RESPECTABLE young woman, as chambermaid and waitress, or to assist in fine washing and ironing; is a very good washer and ironer. Can be seen two days at No. 56 12th-st., between 6th and 7th ave., rear house, first floor. Best of City references from her last place.

WANTED—A SITUATION AS CHAMBERMAID by a girl fully competent in every particular; has been with her present employer some years, and given universal satisfaction; can be seen for two days at her present employer's, No. 397 Grand-st., where any information will be given cheerfully. P. S.—Is good to children.

WANTED—A GENTLEMAN WISHES TO PROcure a situation for his coachman, whom he has found most trustworthy and competent; he came to the advertiser well recommended with several years' reference. Any family requiring such a man will hear of one by applying for T. P., at Mr. WALKE'S, saddler, No. 759 Broadway.

WANTED.—A YOUNG MAN (AMERICAN) WISHes to make an engagement from Jan. 1 with some wholesale house, as assistant book-keeper; has had several years' experience, and is capable of keeping books by double entry. Refers to last employers. Address Times Office.

WANTED.—A COACHMAN WANTS A SITUAtion who thoroughly understands his business in all its branches; has been accustomed to take care of, and to go to any part of the United States, and would make himself useful to any one who may engage him. Address G. B., No. 66 16th-st., corner of 3d-av.

WANTED.—TWO NORTH OF IRELAND, PROtestant girls want situations, one as chambermaid and sewing, or nurse, the other as chambermaid or laundress, or waiting; no objection to go a short distance in the country. Best of City reference. Call at No. 141 East 22d-st., between 2d and 3d avs.

WANTED—A SITUATION, BY A RESPECTABLE young woman; is a good cook, washer and ironer; understands baking and pastry; no objection to go a short distance in the country. Good City reference. Can be seen for two days, at No. 38 Hammersley-st., second floor, back room.

WANTED—BY A HIGHLY RESPECTABLE Protestant young woman a situation to travel to any part of the United States or Europe, as nurse or to attend an invalid lady; is kind and obliging, and highly recommended. Call for two days at No. 171 East 34th-st.

WANTED—BY A PROTESTANT GIRL, A SITuation as chambermaid and waitress. Would have no objections to do the housework of a small family. Is a good baker. Can procure the best of City reference. Apply at No. 347 20th-st., near 8th-av.

WANTED—SITUATIONS BY THREE PROTESTant young women; one as chambermaid and waiter; one as cook; one as nurse and seamstress; can do the general housework; all by their very active colored woman. Apply at No. 7 11th-st., near Broadway.

WANTED.—A HEALTHY, RESPECTABLE PROtestant woman, who has just lost her babe, would like to nurse a child, either at home or at the parents' residence. Good references given. MRS. McLELLAN, No. 174 Madison-st.

WANTED—BY A PROTESTANT YOUNG MAN, a situation as chambermaid and waiter, or to assist in fine washing and ironing; is a very good washer and ironer. Can be seen two days at No. 56 19th-st., between 6th and 7th ave., rear house, first floor. Best of City references from her last place.

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KEY WEST.

Obituary of the Country—Occupations of the People—Miscellaneous.

From a Private Letter.

KEY WEST, FLA., Wednesday, Dec. 9, 1857.

You say in your last letter, "How little is actually known at the North about Key West, its business, inhabitants and, more especially, of its climate." The impression prevalent among those who have never been here seems to be that it is a sand bank in mid-ocean, barren and dreary, inhabited by men who are but little better than pirates, who follow wrecking for a living and piracy for a pastime.

I propose to jot down for your benefit, and the good of "suffering humanity" generally, what impressions I have formed of the place and "natives," after a residence here of nearly two months, in which time, if a person does not keep his eyes shut, a tolerably fair idea can be formed of a place so easily explored as this island.

Key West is about four miles long from N. E. to S. W., with an average width of about three-quarters of a mile. The foundation of the island is a species of limestone, overlaid by pulverized coral, resembling white sand. The island is covered with a thick growth of bushes, plentifully interspersed with the prickly pear and wild tobacco, while in the city are found cocoanut, pineapple, sea-grape, tamarind and many other beautiful trees. In the gardens, many of which are very beautiful, find very thick orange, lemons, limes, pomegranates, bananas, grapes, guavas, figs, almonds, and almost every specimen of tropical fruit; while the most brilliant flowers gladden the eye and spread their grateful perfume on the air. The cocoanut tree waves its feather-like branches, the rustling of which, when agitated by the wind, sounded so like rain that the night of my landing here, hearing the noise, I arose, half asleep, to close the window, and was only undeceived by finding the moon shining brightly and one of these trees nodding against the side of the house. Key West is not mountainous, the highest point being about fifteen feet above the level of the sea, and some parts are considerably below the level, especially towards the northwest extremity, where are situated large ponds for the manufacture of salt, sixty thousand bushels of which article are stored here at the present time.

The city of Key West is situated upon the southwest portion of the Island—is laid out with considerable regularity, and contains about 2,500 inhabitants, the whole population of the Key amounting to about 3,600, all of whom do not obtain their livelihood either directly or indirectly by wrecking, as that is the only business which brings any capital to the Island, nothing being produced here for export with the exception of salt and Sisal hemp, and these are only manufactured by one person. There are several large stores here for the sale of all kinds of merchandise, and some very extensive ship-chandleries. Shipbuilding is carried on to quite a considerable extent; a ship of over a thousand tons burden (the *S. R. Mallory*) having been launched during the past Summer. She was built by a man who had never seen a ship built in his life, and I am informed by those who saw her, is a triumph of naval architecture. Two beautiful schooners have been launched since I arrived. We have four churches, Baptist, Methodist, Episcopal, and Catholic, all of which are well attended, as are also the schools, several of which are to be found here.

And now as to that horrid bugbear, which has frightened so many, myself among the number. The prevalent and general opinion is that the wreckers are a parcel of lawless, piratical scoundrels who will allow nothing, not even human life, to stand between them and their booty. Why, how often have I heard and read of their cutting off fingers for valuable rings, or drawing a knife across a man's throat, if he objected to their relieving him of his property. But how different is the reality to this long-swallowed romance.

Suppose a ship in transit from New-Orleans to Liverpool, though erroneous reckoning or bad weather, gets upon any of the reefs or keys which are so numerous between here and the coast of Florida. The wreckers, whose vessels are cruising about, find her, repair damages as far as possible, and carry her into Key West. If she be too badly hurt to get off, they take out as much cargo as they can, strip her and take their load, and the passengers or crew in here, where everything is placed in charge of the United States Marshal and the agent of the Board of Underwriters. The cargo if damaged is sold at auction, and proceeds (after deducting salvage) distributed among the several offices to which the vessel is insured. The amount of salvage to which the wreckers are entitled for their services, is decided by a United States Judge of Admiralty, who is always here, and before whom all cases must be adjudicated. This salvage is divided *pro rata* among the wrecking vessels according to tonnage and number of crew.

If, instead of being cast away, a ship should be disabled by losing masts, &c., she simply pays those who pilot or tow her into port, and this amount is also decided by the Judge, unless the parties arrange matters between themselves without submitting it to adjudication.

These wreckers, who are generally orderly, well-disposed people, live here with their families, and are as quiet, honest and hospitable as the same number of farmers would be. They are mostly natives of the Bahamas, and of English descent. In fact, the majority of the inhabitants are Bahamians or "Conchs" as they are christened here.

But the climate here is the great point of interest to strangers at these who visit here generally come for health.

It is now just the middle of December, and the weather is as warm as we generally find it at the North in midsummer. The prevailing wind here is the north-east, although it is continually changing about from one point of the compass to another. Sometimes the wind is south, when it is very hot and sultry. In the Summer this south wind is regarded as unbearably. The "northers" that visit this neighborhood during the Winter months, are frequently cold enough to require fires, but they occur too seldom—perhaps half a dozen times during the Winter. Since our arrival the wind has blown from the north frequently, but never cold or hard enough to be dignified by the name of a regular "norther." The last blow we had from that direction was about two weeks ago, and lasted three days. If it had been blowing in from the open sea, it would doubtless have been grand; but as the water in that direction was pretty well filled up with small islands, scattered about, the roll of the sea, consequent upon a heavy wind, is pretty well cut up in pieces. Should a gale blow from the southward across the Gulf of Mexico, it would doubtless kick up quite a [illegible]

[illegible] persons affected with pulmonary or throat complaints, this is *the* place. I have seen [illegible] who came out to die, so it were, but are now as hearty and robust as I am, and as healthy. I get no commission from hotel-keepers for this puff, as there are no hotels here, but very good accommodations can be [illegible] in many private families, and, moreover, the living here is very good; indeed, there are very [illegible] and pleasant folks, and all one [illegible] is pleased that he will have a [illegible] here.

[illegible] newspaper published [illegible] From the appearance of [illegible] I should think it would be well supported.

[illegible] people here have to rely upon themselves for their amusements. Hence there is much sociability among the residents, who appear to be affected with fewer petty jealousies than I have seen in some other small communities.

The steam frigate *Susquehanna* was here a few days since, on her return from the telegraph laying expedition. Capt. Dahlgren and his officers were very polite to the inhabitants of the Key, and we had the pleasure of enjoying their hospitalities on board their noble ship.

A dramatic association has been recently formed, and during the coming season it is expected that there will be amateur performances which will be perfectly "stunning."

WM.

NEW-YORK CITY.

The New Tabernacle Church—Laying the Corner-Stone.

The corner-stone of the new Church, in course of erection for the worshippers at the late Broadway Tabernacle, at the corner of Thirty-Fourth-street and Sixth-avenue, was laid yesterday in the presence of some hundreds of spectators, many of whom were ladies. The exercises commenced with an invocation by Rev. Dr. CHEEVER, after which the One Hundred-and-Seventeenth Psalm, "From all that dwell below the skies," was sung by the audience. Rev. Dr. CHEEVER then read a selection of verses from the Scriptures, commencing with "But will God dwell upon Earth? Behold the heaven of heavens will not contain Him; how much less the house that I have builded."

The first address was delivered by Rev. Dr. BURGESS, of Brooklyn. Allow me (he said) my Christian friends to remind you that in the laying of this corner-stone, we do not profess to be laying anything new. The corner-stone on which this Church, and all Evangelical Churches are founded, has long since been laid in Zion, elect and precious, the corner-stone of a spiritual society, of which every stone is a living soul. The Church, the foundation of which was now to be laid, professed a unity of faith and brotherhood with all churches of apostolic origin, with the Evangelical Churches of this country, with the Church of England, and the Church of England, except that portion of the latter which had verified the objections made to it by the Puritan fathers, that it was not wholly Protestant, by remaining itself in spirit with the persecuting Church. But with the fathers of the Evangelical Churches of New-England and Old England, they were present to-day, to build up what the Puritans had founded; thanking God for this difference, that whereas the Puritan fathers founded the American Church of Christ under wintry skies, and among savage enemies, they to-day were among consenting brethren.

Although they were laying the corner-stone of the new edifice, it was still an old Church, if anything could be called old in this young City. The Tabernacle was the mother of churches. You have not continued the reverend gentleman, left the honors of maternity behind you among the ruins of Broadway, but have brought them all hither. You have been proud of the old Tabernacle, where convocations of Christians have been held annually for many years. He (the speaker) knew not what convocations of the servants of God would assemble in this new tabernacle [illegible] what [illegible] the destruction of the first Temple at Jerusalem [illegible] the temple was built, and the old men lifted up their hands and wept for the magnificence of the first temple; that into that second temple did the Lord Jesus enter. So around the communion tables of this second Tabernacle he trusted that generations of Christians might gather, and that the Saviour would always be in the midst of them. The memory of the old building, it was true, could not [illegible] [illegible] and the developed [illegible] thousands still lingered, in imagination, about its [illegible] would the building, the corner-stone of which they had now assembled to lay, but that we should [illegible] history? That indeed they could not tell, nor what change would come after it, any more than the Manhattan Indian of two hundred years ago, could have told what the New-York of to-day would have been like. But whatever work they may on this Corner Stone, the Author of their salvation would never be taken down, but that at his second coming the Tabernacle Church, as a glorified body, would pass into the true and glorious Church, which is not made with hands, but is eternal in the heavens.

At the conclusion of Dr. BURGESS's address, Rev. Dr. VERMILYE offered prayer. Rev. Dr. THOMPSON then proceeded to lay the corner-stone. Before the box containing the relics was lowered into the excavation in the stone prepared to receive it, Dr. THOMPSON said:

Less than 20 years have elapsed since the old Tabernacle was built. To-day we stand nearly three miles from that demolished structure, and here we trust to stand for ten times twenty years to come. We take our place here in a part of the city comparatively unoccupied. We come in the spirit of Christian brotherhood, towards all sects of Evangelical Christians around us,—a spirit which is cordially reciprocated by them. We shall not attempt to reproduce the old Tabernacle, either in size or form. This building, when finished, will seat 1,800 persons; and as other foundation can no man lay than that which is laid, (Jesus Christ,) we deposit in this stone a copy of the Sacred Scriptures, and our articles of faith on an evangelical Church. The box, which will be lowered into the stone, contains also, among other documents, a copy of the American Congregational Year Book for 1857; the Annual Reports of the Bible Society, the Home Missionary Society, of the American Board of Missions, of the American and New-York City Tract Societies, of the Sunday School Union, of the Mercantile Library Association, and a copy of the last weeks' issue of the following religious newspapers: the *Independent, Evangelist, Observer, Protestant Churchman, Examiner, Recorder, Intelligencer* and *Christian Advocate*. Also copies of the following daily secular newspapers: *Journal of Commerce, Evening Post, Commercial Advertiser, New-York Times, Tribune* and *Sun*, with a written historical sketch of the Tabernacle Church, and a copper-plate bearing the date of its establishment in 1840, of its removal to this spot in 1857, with the names of the officers of the Church and Society.

Dr. THOMPSON also stated with becoming modesty, that those having charge of the contents of the box, had thought fit therein to deposit an engraved portrait of himself, the present pastor, which he said was a complimentary method of laying him aside before his time, with a remote prospect of his seeing light again in some distant generation.

The top or covering-stone was then lowered to its place, and firmly cemented over the corner-stone, and Dr. THOMPSON having struck it with a mallet, was presented by the architect with a silver trowel, with ivory handle, on which the following was engraved:

LEROY EMMITT, Architect.
MARCUS EMMITT, Mason.
THOMAS WILSON, Carpenter.

TO

REV. JOSEPH P. THOMPSON, D.D.

With this trowel, which was quite an elegant affair, Mr. THOMPSON tapped the stone, and the 118th Psalm, "Behold the sure foundation stone," was sung by the spectators.

Rev. HENRY WARD BEECHER, who was announced to take part in the proceedings, not being present, Rev. RUFUS W. CLARK, of Brooklyn, delivered a brief address, after which Dr. THOMPSON, in a few words, described the plan of the new edifice, which would be, when finished, 180 feet long by 68 wide; and would contain a lecture-room, a Sabbath school-room, a social class and a Bible class-room, also a pastor's private room and library. The lecture-room would probably be ready for use by April next, and the whole building, he trusted, would be opened for worship, by next Thanksgiving Day.

Prayer having been offered by Rev. Dr. BURGESS, and a Doxology sung, the assembly dispersed.

The Expenditures of the City Inspector's Department.

The City Inspector has, in compliance with the requirements of the ordinances, submitted the following statement of the estimated expenditures of this Department, necessary for the year 1858:

"City Inspector's Department.....$11,875

This amount is an increase on the amount of appropriation for 1857, to explain which, it is proper to observe, that additional duties imposed by the new charter, and the better regulation of "Slaughter-houses," as provided by ordinance of the Common Council, has demanded additional labor in the Department, and caused a deficiency for the present year of about "two thousand dollars," which it is requisite shall be included in the deficiencies of the year. The contract entered into by this Department at the commencement of my official term, for the removal of dead animals, blood, offal and other matter deleterious to the public health, whereby it was agreed to pay the Corporation $4,000; and to perform this service, instead of costing the City, as formerly, $60,000 to $70,000 per annum, shows a favorable comparison of this estimate with past years, the appropriations since 1852, having been—

1852	$60,000	1855	$30,000
1853	62,275	1856	8,315
1854	75,800	1857	6,050

The increase for 1856, being in part necessary to enable the contractor in receiving that which was to become a material of value, and the removal of which, not only affects the preservation of the public health, but affords to the Corporation a source of revenue.

"Cleaning streets and pay of Street Inspectors," [illegible] $[illegible]

To every class of our citizens, the obtainment of a "clean street" is an object of the highest importance, and, at various times, it has been sought to have the work performed properly and with economy, by awarding its execution by contract; all of which attempts have hitherto failed of success; the amount expended in past years having been—

1852	$256,324 42	1855	$76,262 42
1853	289,822 97	1856	206,254 75
1854	318,186 47		

During part of this time the work has been by contract, at other times by days' work under the appropriate department. When the work has been performed by days' work, from the above accounts, the receipts arising by the sale of manure, &c., should be deducted to afford a just comparison, as when done by contract, the proceeds of the manure sales accrue to the benefit of the contractors. Since May last this work has been under the direction of this department, and managed, as it has been, with strict economy, the results form the basis of the estimate made above.

Compared with the above statement of expenses for years past, it would seem to be a low estimate—perhaps too low to secure the performance of the work; yet, as in my judgment, there will be a deficiency of accounting.....$10,000
Over the appropriation.....$50,000

made for this work for the year 1857, I am, therefore, encouraged to believe that the service can be rendered for the amount mentioned.

The deficiency mentioned will require to be included in the deficiencies of the year.

Several propositions have been presented to the Common Council, by parties who propose to perform the work of street cleaning, by contract, for a term of years, any of which offers, if accepted, and such contract can be lawfully executed by action of the Common Council, it will require an alteration to be made in the amount of this estimate, to conform to the contract price; and to include the pay of street inspectors, &c., say $20,000, in addition thereto.

Markets			$7,100

The appropriations for several years past, under this head, have been:

1852	$7,600	1855	$12,000
1853	8,000	1856	7,000
1854	8,000	1857	7,000

The expenditures, since the new Charter devolved the management of the public markets, as forming a portion of the duties of this department, have been as follows:

June	$456 50	September	$517 82
July	526 18	October	757 34
August	459 01		

Total for five months	$2,768 80
Average per month	553 76

I am, therefore, of opinion, the same appropriation, as for 1857, will suffice for the expense of the ensuing year.

Accompanying this communication is presented a statement of salaries of officers of the department, under existing ordinances, and as heretofore included in the appropriation of salaries of City officers.

GEO. W. MORTON, City Inspector.

SALARIES IN THE DEPARTMENT.

City Inspector, Geo. W. Morton			$2,500
First Clerk, W. R. W. Chadsame			1,200
R. C. Hawkins, Superintendent			1,200
Two clerks, under ordinance for street cleaning, each at $1,000			2,000
Health Warden			2,000
Health Officer			2,000
J. S. Morris, Registrar of Records			1,200
Superintendent of Bureau of Public Markets			1,000

CLERKS OF MARKETS.

Washington (Dry Clerk)	$1,000 00	Centre	$720 00
	750 00	Catharine	720 00
Fulton	1,000 00	Clinton	720 00
Jefferson	720 00	Gouverneur	447 50
Franklin	547 50	Union	720 00
Tompkins	720 00	Essex	720 00

AN EFFORT TO CAPTURE TAMMANY.—About a hundred persons have signed an address to the Democracy of the City. The upshot of their long story is this:

"We therefore recommend to the Democratic Republican electors of the City of New York to meet in their several Wards on Wednesday next, 30th inst., at the place hereinafter designated, and to elect, between the hours of 4 and 8 o'clock P. M., five persons from each Ward, who, together, shall constitute the Democratic Republican General Committee for 1858. Also, to elect, at the same time and place, five persons from each Ward to constitute a Young Men's Democratic Republican General Committee for the year 1858. Also, to elect, at the same time and place, as many persons as the electors may deem expedient, not to exceed fifty in each Ward, to constitute a Ward Committee for the year 1858. That the said elections in each Ward shall be conducted under the care of three Inspectors herein named; and a certificate signed by a majority of the said Inspectors shall be *prima facie* evidence of election.

That the said Delegates thus chosen to the General Committee shall constitute the Democratic Republican General Committee for the year 1858, and shall hold their first meeting at Tammany Hall on Wednesday evening, Jan. 6, for the purpose of party organization. The Ward Committees shall meet for organization at the places of election on Wednesday evening, Jan. 6, 1858."

The names signed to this manifesto are not particularly well known, though we have heard of some of them before.

Police Intelligence.

A NEW COUNTERFEIT IN CIRCULATION—LARGE NUMBER OF ARRESTS.

Counterfeit $3 bills on the John Hancock Bank, of Springfield, Mass., were put in active circulation in the City on Thursday night. As retail stores were kept open at a much later hour than usual and large numbers were busily making their purchases for Christmas presents, a more favorable opportunity could not have been selected. Fortunately the fact of the utterance of the bills was speedily brought to the knowledge of the Police Authorities, and the Police of the different Wards were on the alert to arrest parties offering the money. Large numbers who had the "queer" in their possession, intending to "push it," were doubtless warned in time to allow them to back out from their project. As it was, a large number of arrests were made, as follows: John O'Brien, James McMahon, Eliza McDermott and Sarah McGowan, were arrested for attempting to pass the bills at the stores of Christopher Grant, No. 31 Mott-street, Patrick Terry, No. 150 Worth-street, and Albert Hall, No. 186 Chatham-street. Henry Howard was arrested by Officer Walsh, of the Fourth Ward, for passing one of the counterfeit bills at the clothing store of Thomas Hussey, in Chatham-street. A German woman, named Augusta Myers, residing in Spring-street, was arrested by Officer Wark, of the Eighth Ward, charged with passing one of the bills at the store of Thomas Acosta, No. 403 Canal-street. The prisoner, on being taken to the Station-house, was seized with convulsive fits, and a physician had to be called to attend upon her. She alleges that she took the bill as a good bill, and believing it to be good, passed it on the complainant. Ellen Lundey was arrested by Officer Mead, of the Ninth Ward, for passing one of the bills at the store of Henry Tyson, No. 22 Eighth-avenue. Thomas Green, a stage driver, was arrested for passing one of the bills at the store of Wm. H. Hoyt, No. 455 Eighth-avenue, and another at the store No. 429 in the same avenue. Patrick Cone, an Irish carman, passed one of the bills upon Mr. Aaron Asher, No. 393 Eighth-avenue. A woman named Mary Hennley was arrested for offering one of the bills at Mr. Hoyt's store, No. 455 Eighth-avenue. Andy Boyle passed one of the bills at Mr. Hoyt's store for a pound of tea, and received good money in change. He went to Mr. Harris' store, and buying a seventy-five cent shirt, offered another of the counterfeit bills, saying it was all the money he had. Officer Lawbeck arrested him as he was about entering a third store. In his possession were found nine of the counterfeit bills, and $12 80 good money. Boyle's was the first arrest made in the Eighth-avenue. The parties named above, who were arrested in the Fourth and Sixth Wards, were taken yesterday before Justice CONSOLLY, at the Lower Police Court, and detained for examination. The others were taken before Justice FLANNIGAN, at the Jefferson Market Police Court, and fully committed for trial in default of $5,000 bail each.

In the Seventh, Tenth and Fourteenth Wards, six arrests were made, and the prisoners locked up over night. They were taken yesterday before Justice WOOD, but on the evidence adduced were all discharged.

The counterfeit bill referred to which it was attempted to get into such extensive circulation, is an imitation of the genuine note of the same denomination. Its execution is not of a character to deceive good judges of money.

ANOTHER BURGLARY AND ARREST.—At a late hour on Thursday night, some burglars broke into the warehouse of Wm. H. Lee, No. 100 Madison-street. The lock of the safe was found blown open with gunpowder, and [illegible] spots of blood were found on the floor. It is probable the burglars were injured in their attempt to blow open the safe. A man giving his name as Thos. Griffen was found near the store having fresh cuts upon his hands, the cause of which he was unable to explain satisfactorily. He was arrested on suspicion of being one of the burglars, taken before Justice FLANNIGAN, and held for examination.

ARREST OF A BURGLAR.—Mr. ABM. E. THOMPSON, residing at No. 23 Allen-street, was awakened at 5 o'clock yesterday morning, by the noise of footsteps coming up stairs. She immediately gave an alarm, when the burglar by whom her rest was disturbed, beat a hasty retreat, and ran out of the front door into the street. Officer Fraser, of the Tenth Ward, happened to see the fellow come out of the house, and after chasing him a couple of blocks arrested him. Upon arresting him, he discovered that he was the same individual whom he had seen a little while before attempting to enter a house in Canal-street. The prisoner was taken before Justice WOOD and fully committed. He gave his name as Wm. Henderson, and on him were found a bunch of skeleton keys and a pair of burglar's nippers.

Coroner's Inquests.

SUICIDE WITH LAUDANUM.—An inquest was held yesterday by Coroner PERRY, at No. 8 Walker-street, upon the body of MARY WRIGHT, who committed suicide on Thursday night by taking laudanum. The deceased was very intemperate and had frequently threatened her own life. A verdict was rendered in accordance with the facts stated. Deceased was 23 years of age and a native of Ireland.

FOUND DROWNED.—Coroner GAMBLE held an inquest yesterday on the body of an unknown man, found floating in the water, foot of pier No. 4, East River. The deceased was about five feet seven inches high, gray hair, no whiskers, and dressed in a black coat and black pants. A piece of paper was found in his pocket, on which was written: "Dec. 24, 1857, Pay J. DYSARSE."

FATAL FALL DOWN STAIRS.—An inquest was held yesterday, at the Penitentiary, on the body of MARY DOYLE, an Irish woman, 61 years of age, who died from the effects of injuries received from falling down stairs while intoxicated. A verdict was rendered of "Death by compression of the brain, produced by a fall."

FALL AGAINST A STOVE.—Coroner GAMBLE held an inquest yesterday at No. 142 Stanton-street, on the body of JANE WEATHERLEY, a child, 6 years of age, who died from injuries caused by falling headforemost against a stove. Verdict: "Accidental death."

Drs. HUNTER & MELVILLE, consulting physicians for Pulmonary diseases, No. 822 Broadway, New-York.

S. COATES, manufacturer of Portable Gas Works, under the patent of the Maryland Portable Gas Company, desires to call public attention to the improved apparatus adapted by Officer HERMSCOTT for country residences, factories, hotels, &c. These works are safe, cheap, efficient and simple in their construction, and warranted to give entire satisfaction.

Office No. 379 Broadway, New-York, where descriptive circulars may be obtained. S. COATES.

THE REWARD OF GENIUS.—Genius sometimes makes one happy 'tis and achieves fortune and fame at once, but some have to make a succession of hits, each better than the former, like KING, corner of Broadway and Fulton-street, whose latest Winter style of Hats for gentlemen excel anything of the kind ever brought out. They are becoming, easy, cheap, lasting superbly finished, and add a crowning grace to the noblest head.

It is now generally conceded by all, that the article S. T. Feal recommended for the "stomach's sake," was not a mixture of logwood, pure spirits, &c., usually sold as imported direct from Oporto, but the pure Turkish Wine, such as can be had at GOODWIN & BROMLEY'S, No. 14 First-street, near the Nursery. Orders promptly supplied.

GAS, GAS.—Call at the great dépôt of ARCHER, WARNER & Co., No. 824 Broadway, for new gas-fixtures at Hard Times prices. Selling off our entire stock.

HERRING'S PATENT CHAMPION FIRE-PROOF SAFES.—Nos. 125, 127 and 129 Water-street, and No. 301 Broadway, corner Murray-street, New-York.

LONG ISLAND.

A THIEF SHOT.—Yesterday morning, THADDEUS MANNERING was arrested by Officer HEMSCOTT of the Third Precinct, for shooting a boy named Jean Oscoos, in Myrtle-avenue, Brooklyn. It appears that MANNERING drives a bakery cart, and Oscoos has frequently stolen bread from him. Yesterday he caught Oscoos in the act, and fired at him, wounding him in the leg.

BURGLARIES.—House No. 154 Atlantic-street, Brooklyn, was robbed, on Thursday night, of property valued at $250. House No. 180 Atlantic-street was robbed the same night of clothing valued at $50. House corner of Dean and Bergum streets was robbed the same night of a quantity of clothing.

FIRE IN BROOKLYN.—J. A. CROSS & Co.'s planing-mill and lumber-yard, at the foot of Ann-street, East Brooklyn, was damaged by fire, on Thursday night, to the extent of $3,500. Insured for $1,600 in the Williamsburg City Insurance Company, and St. Mark's Insurance Company, of New-York.

The Census—Letter from Dr. Hough.

ALBANY, Thursday, Dec. 17, 1857.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

SIR: In the editorial columns of the *Tribune* of the 16th inst., I noticed an article upon the Census, which appears to have been written under a misapprehension of facts in regard to the manner in which the Census was taken, and as therefore tending to mislead the public as to the real responsibility for its errors. To allow these statements to pass unnoticed, would be to yield tacit consent to their truth. With the view, therefore, of correcting the erroneous impression which this article will have a tendency to produce, and of stating the facts in their true light I beg leave to submit the following statements.

It is well known that the Census was taken during the Summer of 1855, by Marshals appointed by Secretary LEAVENWORTH, and returns were made by every one of these marshals before the present Secretary entered upon the duties of his office. Upon every previous occasion the appointment of marshals was left to the local authorities, and we have abundant evidences of the wish of Gen. LEAVENWORTH to continue this mode of appointment, in the printed bill for the taking of the Census, which was prepared by him with great care, and passed by the Assembly without amendment. In the Senate the unwelcome provision was introduced, by which the appointment of marshals was entrusted to the Secretary of State. Without stating the motives for this change, which were openly avowed by the distinguished (?) Senator who moved and advocated the amendment, I can with sincerity assert, from my personal knowledge, that no one could have labored with more disinterested zeal to procure the services of well-qualified men for this task, than did Secretary LEAVENWORTH. In his circular to those requested to furnish names of candidates for the office, after stating the requirements of the law, that they must have resided at least a year in the town where appointed, he states, as the only other requisite, "that they might all be sober, respectable citizens, persons who write a fair hand, and who would sufficiently appreciate the responsibility of their position, and faithfully perform the duties devolved upon them under the law."

There was not a single instance, to my knowledge, in which those making the nominations were requested to have regard to the political faith of the candidates, while there were many cases in which political opponents were appointed from their supposed fitness for the position.

The acknowledged motives for the change in mode of appointment, led in some degree to the popular impression that the Census was to be made subservient to political ends, and this mischievous and undeserved suspicion received support in the minds of some, from the indiscreet appointment by a private publisher, of most or all of the Marshals as agents for the sale of a book written for political effect. The names and address of the Marshals were collected for this purpose from the several country newspapers in which they had been published, to secure accuracy in names and residences, and might have been used by any one for this or any similar purpose without its being in the power of the Secretary to prevent it. A charge of complicity in this affair, made at the time by an opponent, was indignantly and unequivocally denied by the Secretary.

I feel fully warranted in the assertion that the mode of appointment above stated is injudicious and improper, and only notice these details to point out some of the evils to which the system is liable under the most favorable circumstances. Charged with the responsible duty of collecting the data upon which depend representation in the Legislature, and the numerous public and private interests of society which are promoted by a full and correct statement of our resources and numbers, the Census Marshals should be as free as possible from suspicions of being in the interests of any party or sect. He should be regarded as free from schemes of assessment or taxation, in any form, and simply employed to collect answers to the questions in his schedules, for the general purposes of Government. The public should understand that individual items will be blended in the final results, and that the details of private business are entrusted to these officers under an implied pledge that they shall only appear in the general aggregate.

As before stated, the enumeration was completed in 1855. The task of preparing the results for publication was commenced on the 1st day of August in that year. Upon a careful examination of the principles which should be adopted throughout, it was decided that the returns being officially made, under oath, by persons legally appointed, the Secretary had no authority to change them, and that *the duty of the office was limited to the accurate summary and analysis of the schedules as reported.* A candid view of the case must lead to the conviction that no other course was practicable. In the instructions to the Secretary, the general sources of error are stated, and the existence of manifest discrepancies noticed. With reference to the particular class of inconsistencies noticed in your paper of the 16th inst., I would state, that one set of these figures is derived from the returns of population, as reported by the heads of families, and the other of manufactures, as reported by proprietors or overseers. The statistics of manufactures, especially in cities, are—for reasons stated in our introduction—exceedingly imperfect; and this fact suggests the necessity of some radical change in the making of these returns. In most European censuses the labors of enumerators are limited to inquiries concerning population, and it is well known that in our country we never have had a census which did not present crude and unsatisfactory results beyond their legitimate field—that of personal statistics. This occasion does not admit of a statement of the experience acquired by the late census in the department of industrial statistics. It is hoped that modifications will be hereafter introduced that will obviate the errors which have hitherto existed.

Upon the entrance of Mr. HARLEY upon the office of Secretary of State, no change whatever was made in the plan for arranging the census that had been previously adopted, and it has gone forth to the world with *precisely that character for accuracy which it received at the hands of the Census Marshals in June, 1855.* Under these circumstances, it is unjust to impute blame to the Secretary of State which, if due, belongs to other parties.

FRANKLIN B. HOUGH.

Personal.

The *Philadelphia Press* understands that Hon. William M. Meredith, of Bucks County, has been offered the important place of Secretary of the Commonwealth, under the coming Administration of [illegible]

On Friday last a most cold-blooded murder was perpetrated about five miles from Blue Island, and about miles from the Milwaukee road.

A man left Blue Island in the morning, intending to travel on foot to Chicago. Another person, with assumed name of STAUB, it seems, obtained a ride with him, telling him that he was out of money and going to Chicago, and got on the same seat with the driver, who was driving. When about three miles from the village, STAUB drew a revolver unknown to the driver, placed it at the back of the driver's head and fired, killing him instantly, the ball passing through the head, and being detained only by the skin of the cheek.

STAUB managed the team, blotted it, and getting out, dragged the body of the deceased into the great a few rods, and left it. He then drove the team into Chicago, sold the oats, and made with the team for Milwaukee, arriving here yesterday morning.

STAUB had been in this city previously, and several days since had bargained for the purchase of the Exchange Saloon, under the Excelsior Block, and was to pay $500 for it, and had paid $50 down to bind the bargain—six $10 pieces, and one $20 piece in gold. It seems that at the time this bargain was first made, Policeman KEENAN became suspicious of the young man (STAUB) that was making the purchase and shadowed him closely.

STAUB returned to Chicago, and it has since turned out that as he had not money enough to pay up the balance, he deliberately planned the murder of the deceased, to obtain his team and sell it. It also appears that the money with which the deposit of $50 was paid, was part of a robbery committed in Blue Island. Where STAUB was, when he left the Exchange Saloon, and while shadowing him—having in the meantime heard of the robbery of the $400 by a man answering the description of STAUB,—a telegraphic despatch was received in this city, detailing the account of a murder near Blue Island, and that a young man was suspected, giving at the same time a somewhat vague description of the supposed murderer. This information was given to KEENAN, who became satisfied, after hearing the stories of STAUB, that he was the murderer. The officer suddenly turning, asked him:—"Did you hear of that man who was killed near Chicago last Friday?" STAUB answered—"Yes, I know all about it." KEENAN next asked him—"Well, do you know who killed him?" STAUB answered that "he did that he STAUB, wanted his team; and he shot him to get it;" and at once made a full confession of the whole matter.

The policeman of course immediately took him into custody and lodged him in the station-house. The horses, wagon, empty bags, &c., were also taken to the station-house barn. An officer arrived from Chicago on the noon train and found STAUB already in the cell.

The arrested party is a young man about 20 years of age, a native of the canton of Zurich in Switzerland. He had been about six months in the United States, is said to be of respectable parents and to have been well educated. We learn that the name of the murdered man is LAUTERMAN, and that he was a farmer residing at Western Prairie, Ind.

On searching STAUB, who seems to have gone by the name of SERGUS, and again by the name of EMIL DEAN, the identical revolver with which he shot his victim was found, one barrel of it being discharged.

Progress of the Utah Expedition.

From the St. Louis Republican, Dec. 22.

The expresses which have recently arrived at Fort Leavenworth, from the army of the West, bring information that the whole force, with the exception of Col. COOKE's command, had concentrated on Black's Fork, and were moving towards Fort Bridger, from which they were distant only a few miles. The progress of the army was exceedingly slow, sometimes making only two or three miles a day, and then encamping in the night. The horses, mules and other animals, were giving out hourly, and it is not worth while to conceal the fact that all the animals will perish this Winter. While this is the case, it is satisfactory to know that the troops would soon be in a position where they could bid defiance to the Mormons, and the elements would not harm them. The supply trains had all arrived and were in company with the military, and there would be an abundance of provisions for the whole army. Fort Bridger, it will be recollected, is 113 miles from Great Salt Lake City, but between that Fort and the city all the great obstacles to the march of the army are interposed. The drifting snows fill up the cañons and passes, and an impassable barrier is presented to the march of the troops until next Spring.

A report having gained some currency that two companies of the Fifth Infantry had met with some reverses on the route to Utah, the particular character of which is not stated, we are warranted in saying, by the letters received at Fort Leavenworth, that there is no foundation for any such statement.

We are gratified to learn that there are thirty-five companies of United States troops in Kansas, the whole of which may be put in readiness for a march across the plains by the middle of April next. These can be followed by the new regiments, a large portion of whose ranks must always be borne in mind, must be detailed to escort the provision and baggage trains, but, if the proper measures are at once adopted, the new army will be in Great Salt Lake City before July 1. Whether they will find the Mormons there, or anything but bleak desolation, is another matter.

AN INTERESTING CASE TO RAILROAD TRAVELERS.—A case of much interest to railroad travelers came up in the Police Court, before Judge CUSHING, yesterday afternoon. The question was freely discussed as to whether a person purchasing a through ticket for a certain day, has a right to stop at a way-station over night, and resume his journey the next morning on the same ticket or its equivalent check. The case was this: A man named LORENZO C. TIBBITS was charged with fraudulently endeavoring to avoid the payment of his fare from Rollinsford, N. H., to this city, over the Boston and Maine Railroad. The circumstances are these: Mr. T. on Wednesday purchased a through-ticket from Bangor to Boston, and between Portland and Portsmouth he gave up his ticket and received a check therefor. When the cars reached Rollinsford, Mr. T. left the train. Yesterday forenoon, he got upon the first train from Portland, and as Conductor TUCKER came through the train, Mr. TIBBITS produced the check he had received the day before. He was told he must pay his fare, as the check was not good upon that train. This he refused to do. The conductor telegraphed to this city, and officer PUTZ, of the First Station, met the train at Somerville, and when it reached this city he arrested Mr. TIBBITS.

SETH P. THOMAS, Esq., appeared for the defence, and said it was admitted that the defendant purchased his ticket, that the contract was made that he should ride over the Boston and Maine Railroad, from Bangor to Boston, and he supposed he had a perfect right to remain over one train or one day, as the case might be, and proceed on his journey by virtue of the check he received in exchange for his ticket.

Mr. C. P. JUNE appeared in behalf of the Corporation, and contended that if a passenger purchased a ticket which was good only for a particular train or day, according to the rules and regulations, and if the passenger did not comply with those rules, he virtually evaded the payment of the fare.

Judge CUSHING remarked that the point at issue was whether the defendant fraudulently evaded the payment of the fare, and according to the testimony of the conductor, Mr. TIBBITS could not have come in possession of the check unless he had purchased a ticket. His Honor could see no evidence whatever of an intent to defraud, and Mr. TIBBITS was discharged.—*Boston Ledger, Dec. 25.*

DESERTERS.—Desertions from the army are very frequent. Three weeks ago no less than twenty-three were Court Martialed at the Newport barracks for that offence and drunkenness, and were sentenced to flogging—fifty lashes on the bare back—branding with the letter D in Indian ink on the left thigh, and, lastly, to be drummed out of service. The sentences were transmitted to head-quarters and eleven were remitted of the punishment, but twelve are to suffer the punishment some time next week. Flogging is barbarous enough, but branding in this enlightened age is infamous.—*Cincinnati Commercial.*

COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS.

FRIDAY, Dec. 25—P. M.

The day was kept as a close holiday in Wall-street and on the Merchants' Exchange. About 9 o'clock in the forenoon the steamer *Persia* from Liverpool, Saturday, P. M., Dec. 12, arrived at the dock in Jersey City. The market and financial accounts are three days later than by the previous steamer. A further large advance had been realized in the English Funds; sales of Consols as high as 92 ⅞ cent., ex-dividend, equal to: 93¼ ⅞ cent. with the January halfyearly interest. They closed at 91¾@91⅞ on Tuesday P. M., Dec. 11. The condition of the Bank was